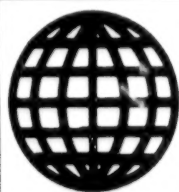


JPRS-TND-92-041
12 November 1992



**FOREIGN
BROADCAST
INFORMATION
SERVICE**

JPRS Report

Proliferation Issues

PROLIFERATION ISSUES

JPRS-TND-92-041

CONTENTS

12 November 1992

[This report contains foreign media information on issues related to worldwide proliferation and transfer activities in nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons, including delivery systems and the transfer of weapons-relevant technologies.]

AFRICA

SOUTH AFRICA

IAEA Reports on 'Secretly Produced' Uranium [THE STAR 30 Sep]	1
JANE'S DEFENCE WEEKLY on Arms Sales to China [Johannesburg Radio]	1

CHINA

Qian Qichen Speaks on Arms Exports to Mideast [Cairo MENA]	2
Progress Seen in Controlled N-Fusion Research [XINHUA]	2
Qinshan Nuclear Plant Preparatory Work Complete [XINHUA]	2

EAST ASIA

INDONESIA

Suharto Opens Nuclear Medical Technology Congress [ANTARA]	4
--	---

JAPAN

Reports Continue on Plutonium Shipment	4
Embassy Issues Statement [Bridgetown CANA]	4
France Approves Tokyo Plan [KYODO]	5
Ship Enters French Port of Brest [KYODO]	5
Latin American Opposition Noted [KYODO]	6
Indonesia Threatens Diversion [KYODO]	6
MITI Hails Court Ruling on Nuclear Reactors [KYODO]	6
International Antinuclear Conference Planned [KYODO]	7

NORTH KOREA

Foreign Ministry Rejects CW Allegation [Pyongyang Radio]	7
Government Notes Condition for Korean Contacts [KCNA]	7

SOUTH KOREA

North's Nuclear Capacity, Development Revealed [WOLGAN CHOSON Aug]	8
JNCC Meeting Set for 29 Oct at Panmunjom [YONHAP]	9
China May Play Role in Korean Nuclear Issue [YONHAP]	10

EAST EUROPE

BULGARIA

Reports on Seizure of Plutonium-239	11
Facts 'Kept Secret' [BTA]	11
Papers Comment [BTA]	11
Iraqi Embassy Denies Reports [BTA]	11
Reactors at Kozloduy Nuclear Plant Viewed [PODKREPA 21 Oct]	11

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Slovakia Imports Nuclear Fuel From German Plant [CSTK]	12
--	----

LATIN AMERICA

CARIBBEAN AFFAIRS

CCC Urges Action Against Toxic Transport [CANA]	13
Caricom Secretariat Seeks Data on Plutonium Threat [CANA]	13
Position Detailed [CANA]	13
Sponsors UN Resolution [CANA]	14

ARGENTINA

Brazil Opposes Japanese Plutonium Shipment [TELAM]	14
--	----

CHILE

Foreign Minister on Japanese Nuclear Cargo [Santiago Radio]	14
---	----

PANAMA

Government Policy on Japanese Radioactive Cargo [LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA]	15
---	----

PERU

Nuclear Agency Seeks Data on Plutonium Shipment [EL COMERCIO 16 Oct]	15
--	----

NEAR EAST & SOUTH ASIA

EGYPT

Musa on Conditions for Nuclear Disarmament [MENA]	16
Writer Faults West for Iran's Nuclear Arsenal [AL-AHALI 28 Oct]	16

INDIA

Substitute for Enriched Uranium May Be Produced [Hong Kong AFP]	16
---	----

IRAQ

UN Team Gains Information on Ballistic Missiles [Paris AFP]	17
German Scientist Says U.S. Sold Uranium to Allies [INA]	17

CENTRAL EURASIA

Russian Intelligence Official at Nuclear Briefing	18
No Threat of Leakage of Secrets [INTERFAX]	18
Exodus of Scientists Denied [ITAR-TASS]	18
Russian Security Agencies Deter Uranium Smuggling [INTERFAX]	18
Russian Security Confiscates Article on CW [NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA 30 Oct]	18
Russian Spokesman Notes New Arms Control Policy [ITAR-TASS]	20
Russia Sets Up Center To Monitor CW Elimination [ITAR-TASS]	21
Russia Drafts Program To Destroy Chemical Weapons [INTERFAX]	21
Russian FIS Denies Claims of Nuclear Brain Drain [KOMMERSANT-DAILY 29 Oct]	21
Russian Visitors to Iran on Nuclear, Uranium Ties [KOMMERSANT-DAILY 27 Oct]	22
Russian New Anti-Missile Systems Found Effective [Moscow TV]	22
Uranium From Udmurtia Plant Smuggled to Poland [BELINFORM]	23
Belarus Schedule for N-Missile Withdrawal Approved [INTERFAX]	23

Georgia Says Abkhazia Possesses Nuclear Charges [NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA 28 Oct]	23
Reports Rejected as 'False' [INTERFAX]	23
Ukraine's Nuclear Stance Evokes Concern [MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI 1 Nov]	24
Ukraine Declares Inability To Produce N-Arms [INTERFAX]	25
Ukraine Thwarts Smuggling of Strontium-90 [Warsaw PAP]	25
Estonia Issues Proposal on Russian Base Reactors [BALTFAX]	25
Urges International Review [INTERFAX]	26
Virus Collection Stolen From Sukhumi Lab [KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA, 23 Oct]	26

WEST EUROPE

FRANCE

Joint Nuclear Deterrence With Britain Explored [LE MONDE 22 Oct]	27
--	----

GERMANY

International Uranium Smuggling Ring Cracked [DFA]	27
Suspected Traffickers Arrested [Paris AFP]	27
Transaction of 80 Kg Plutonium Attempted [BILD 2 Nov]	27

SWEDEN

Radioactive Substances Reportedly For Sale [Stockhold Radio]	28
--	----

UNITED KINGDOM

Government Rules Out Nuclear Test Ban [PRESS ASSOCIATION]	28
---	----

SOUTH AFRICA

IAEA Reports on 'Secretly Produced' Uranium

93WP0014A Johannesburg *THE STAR* in English
30 Sep 92 p 1

[Article by Hugh Robertson]

[Text] Washington—The International Atomic Energy Agency has determined that South Africa secretly produced as much as 400 kg of weapons-grade uranium—enough to fuel about 25 nuclear weapons, according to an article in the latest issue of *NUCLEAR FUEL*, one of the world's leading scientific journals, published by McGraw-Hill Incorporated.

The journal quotes IAEA officials and cites documents, some obtained under the Freedom of Information Act from the Central Intelligence Agency.

It says South African declarations to the IAEA reveal that it received a quantity of low-enrichment uranium "of Chinese origin" and that this and other South African data had supported intelligence estimates that production at the decommissioned Valindaba plant was far higher than previously published figures indicated.

A national television network yesterday quoted extensively from the report, suggesting that the disclosures could spur renewed speculation that South Africa secretly stockpiled nuclear weapons before signing the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty last year.

The journal quotes the chief executive of the SA Atomic Energy Corporation, Waldo Stumpf, as having refused to confirm or deny that South Africa had a nuclear weapons programme. "You must be naive if you think I am going to answer that question," Mr Stumpf is quoted as saying.

JANE'S DEFENCE WEEKLY on Arms Sales to China

MB2810155892 Johannesburg *Channel Africa* Radio
in English 1000 GMT 28 Oct 92

[Interview with JANE'S DEFENSE WEEKLY correspondent Helmoed Heitman by reporter Stein de Preuter; place and date not given—from the "Channel Africa Report" program]

[Text] A southern Africa correspondent of the military publication *JANE'S DEFENSE WEEKLY*, Helmoed Heitman, says there is a good possibility that mainland China is buying weapons from South Africa. Asked to comment on Taiwanese media reports that China had bought long-range artillery from South Africa, Mr. Heitman said the Chinese were more likely to show interest in components and subsystems.

[Begin recording] [Heitman] The Chinese Army certainly is a very large army with some very elderly equipment and needs to upgrade it. The Chinese military have been buying any equipment from pretty much most of the Western defense manufacturers for quite a long time. So, there is no reason why they should not buy from South Africa. Certainly there are some items of equipment that have been developed in South Africa that will be ideally suited to an army like the Chinese that is basically manned by rural personnel, who are not that up to speed with high-tech stuff. It is not to say that South African stuff is not high tech, but it is designed to be simple to operate, and simple to maintain, so it will be well suited to them, also easily manufactured there.

[De Preuter] What type of weapons are you thinking of now?

[Heitman] Heck, pretty much anything. But I think the emphasis would probably be in subsystems and components to upgrade equipment they have already got. The sort of thing you would be looking at maybe might be fire control systems for anti-aircraft, or for war tanks, artillery target, acquisition and fire control equipment—anything in that sort of line. I do not really see them buying armored cars or anything. They still have armored vehicles from the South Africans. So, I am a little doubtful on the artillery story because the Chinese do in fact produce a similar gun to the G-5 themselves, although perhaps it has not turned out a success, that is quite possible.

Also I do not think South African sales of equipment to the Chinese should be seen—with the People's Republic of China—should be seen as a threat in any way to National China, the Republic of China, because really the sort of equipment South Africa produces is no threat to them. It would hardly be relevant in an amphibious operation which any clash between the two would have to be. [end recording]

Qian Qichen Speaks on Arms Exports to Mideast

NC2910075992 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0615 GMT
29 Oct 92

[Text] Cairo, 29 Oct (MENA)—Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen expressed his country's great appreciation for President Husni Mubarak's contribution to the achievement of progress and growth in Egyptian-Chinese relations.

In an interview with AL-AHRAM published today, Qian stressed that the two countries have identical views on the major international and regional issues. He expressed his country's willingness to intensify bilateral relations with Egypt with the aim of strengthening the old ties of friendship that bind the two countries and also to cooperate on a comprehensive and mutual basis to the two countries' benefit.

In reply to a question on China's relations with neighboring countries, Qian said that his country's stand is one of non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries and of respecting the choices made by these countries' peoples.

He expressed his country's hope that the parties concerned with the Middle East problem will continue to show flexibility and pragmatism so as to achieve early tangible progress in the peace process. He reiterated in this regard China's willingness to exert all the efforts it can to establish peace in the region.

Qian stressed that China is committed to three principles on the question of arms exports to the Middle East. He said: The first principle is that this will increase the legitimate self-defensive capability of the countries that receive the weapons; the second is that these weapons should not threaten the peace, security, and stability of the regions concerned; and the third principle is that they should not be used in the internal affairs of other countries' or against their sovereignty.

He added: In light of these principles, China always has adopted a cautious and responsible position on the sale of weapons, "the quantities of which are in fact very limited." He expressed hope that countries which are major weapons exporters to the Middle East will exercise caution and self-restraint.

In reply to a question, the Chinese foreign minister said that the U.S. presidential elections are an internal affair and that China will be ready to continue to work to improve and develop Chinese-U.S. relations regardless of the elections outcome.

Li Lanqing, Chinese minister of foreign economic relations and trade, stressed in an interview also published by AL-AHRAM that Egypt and China have achieved satisfactory results in their economic and trade relations.

He noted that the two countries have signed 34 deals worth \$374 million and that their implementation has enriched economic and technical cooperation in substance and form. He expressed his belief that the two countries' economic and technical cooperation will continue, develop, and grow.

He added that agreement was reached during President Mubarak's recent visit to China, which was cut short because of the earthquake in Egypt, on an interest-free

\$18-million loan from China in addition to a grant of three million yuans (China's currency) which will be used to provide the Mubarak Science City with scientific equipment and to send high-level technical experts.

Progress Seen in Controlled N-Fusion Research

OW0311053892 Beijing XINHUA in English 0513 GMT
3 Nov 92

[Text] Chengdu, November 3 (XINHUA)—Chinese scientists have successfully completed an electron cyclotron resonance heating experiment, marking new progress in the research of China's controlled nuclear fusion.

This has been revealed by the Southwestern Institute of Physics which carried out the experiment with the cooperation of the A.F. Ioffe Physico-Technical Institute of Russia.

Electron cyclotron resonance heating is a most significant auxiliary heating means in tokamak controlled nuclear fusion research. It can further improve the electron temperature base of normal ohmic heating.

The experiment, which was completed at the end of October, shows that China's HL-1 tokamak achieves evident heating effect with the electron temperature raised by 30 percent.

The successful experiment marked the ending of a period when China's Tokamak installation could only do ohmic heating.

Russia was the first to engage in the research of electron cyclotron resonance heating.

Qinshan Nuclear Plant Preparatory Work Complete

OW2910153092 Beijing XINHUA Domestic Service
in Chinese 2102 GMT 26 Oct 92

[By reporter Tang Qingzhong (0781 1987 1813) and "ZHEJIANG JINGJI BAO" reporter Zhang Jun (1728 6511)]

[Text] Hangzhou, 27 Oct (XINHUA)—More than 50 percent of the preparatory work for the second-stage construction of the Qinshan Nuclear Power Project has been completed. The Qinshan project marks the advance of China's nuclear power industry toward standardization and serialization.

According to Yu Hongfu, general manager of the Qinshan nuclear power joint operations company responsible for the second-stage construction of the project, the second-stage has been included in the Eighth Five-Year Plan, with the feasibility report of the project approved by the State Planning Commission in July this year. Engineering tests, initial designing, and equipment positioning have basically been completed. If land requisition can be finished within this year, the earth and stone work for the project will begin early next year.

According to plans, a nuclear power station with a hydraulic-pressure reactor and two 600,000-kw generators will be built at Yangliushan in Haiyan County, Zhejiang Province—about 2 km south of the 300,000-kw Qinshan nuclear power station. After completion, the new station will provide nearly 7 billion kwh of electrical power to the East China Power Grid. Since the state has chosen the

600,000-kw generators as the main generators for China's nuclear power stations in the period to come, the second-stage construction of the Qinshan project marks the first

step taken by our nuclear power industry toward standardization and serialization to reach and surpass the world's advanced technological level.

INDONESIA

Suharto Opens Nuclear Medical Technology Congress

*BK2610131492 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0947 GMT
26 Oct 92*

[Text] Jakarta, Oct 26 (OANA/ANTARA)—President Suharto called on the people here on Monday not to be worried about the use of radioactive materials in the medical field as it has a high safety level.

The nuclear medical technology is very useful and has a high safety level, the president said when opening the fifth Asian-Oceanian nuclear medical and biology congress at the Istana Negara [State Palace].

At the opening of the six-day congress which was attended by Mrs. Tien Suharto, interim Minister of Health Fuad Hassan, and 300 participants, the head of state said that pioneers of nuclear medical world have been able to control and design radioactive for useful purposes.

The Indonesian people do not need to be worried by the use of radioactive because almost all countries in the world have been using it in the medical field, he said adding that it even is used to diagnose and to cure a disease. [sentence as received]

Indonesia has started drawing a plan on the implementation of nuclear medical programs since 1968, President Suharto said.

Since then, the science and technology have been developing encouragingly, particularly in research, education, and the small scale isotope production which is aimed for agricultural, irrigation and medical purposes, he said.

When referring to the raw material for nuclear medication, the president said that the health sector needs a large amount of this materials which are of high quality.

Indonesia has since the 1980's been able to develop a production technology for medical care services. Today, Indonesia has eight hospitals which [have] nuclear medical units, the head of state said.

He said that Indonesia is able to meet its need for isotopes and even it plans to export this material.

JAPAN

Reports Continue on Plutonium Shipment

Embassy Issues Statement

*FL2310234692 Bridgetown CANA in English 2147 GMT
23 Oct 92*

[Text] Port of Spain, Trinidad, Oct 23, CANA—Following is the partial text of a statement on a planned shipment of plutonium released by the Japanese Embassy in Port of Spain.

Multiple measures taken to secure the safe and reliable shipment of plutonium:

(1) High safety transport ship:

The ship which will be used for the transportation of plutonium has been used to transport more than 5,000

tonnes of spent nuclear fuel safely, in more than 100 trips from Japan to Europe. It was built specifically for transporting plutonium. Therefore, a transport ship of highest safety, compared with other ordinary cargo ships, is being used for the shipment of plutonium.

Additionally, the plutonium is sealed up in casks which meet or exceed all international standards and guidelines for transportation safety. Therefore, there is almost no possibility that the shipment would be a threat to the marine environment.

(2) Security and safety measures taken to avoid an accident during shipment:

(a) Selection of the highest safety route. Several routes are being considered, one of which will be chosen just before departure under the total consideration of natural surroundings, political and social situations, sea traffic conditions, etc.

(b) Equipped with multiple collision prevention systems. To avoid any accident, the ship is equipped with satellite navigation systems and anti-collision radar, etc. for highly reliable and precise navigation. An armed escort vessel highly capable of continuously monitoring the neighbouring sea area will accompany the transport ship.

(c) Ship structured to prevent sinking. The ship, being double hulled, is damage-resistant in a collision, crash or grounding, and has a high stability, enough to sustain itself afloat against damages by which sea water could come into the holds or other parts of the ship.

(d) Measures against a fire accident. The ship is equipped with a fire alarm system, redundant pumps, and CO2 fire suppression system for early detection and fire prevention. The ship also has a fireproof structure to prevent the spread of fire. There are no flammable materials on board the ship. Therefore, it is very unlikely that any accident exceeding the safety standards established by the IAEA [International Atomic Energy Agency] (800o c, 30 minutes) will occur.

(e) Casks which meet or exceed all international standards and guidelines for transportation safety. The shipping casks have been tested to demonstrate leak-tightness in water, to a depth of 10,000 meters (the depth of 99.999 percent of the sea in the world is less than 10,000 meters). No distortion of the cask was observed under pressure equivalent to that of a depth of 10,000 meters of water, in 20 minutes. Therefore, cask distortion does not develop in that timeframe. The material of which the cask is made is stainless steel, completely corrosion resistant. Therefore, sealed casks can have a lifespan of more than 10 years in the sea. As the cargo is equipped with transmitting signal equipment which works effectively for five years, the cargo can always be traced anywhere.

(3) Physical protection system:

A patrol boat of the Japanese Maritime Safety Agency is accompanying the transport ship as an escort vessel under the guidelines of the U.S./Japan Nuclear Cooperation Agreement. Also, as a physical protection, the following measures have been taken: a derrick of the ship has been removed, a hatch is not operative, there is a monitoring

system for the ship and the cargo at the operation centre, double systems for correspondence, and armed guards on board the ship.

Route:

(1) The route will not be announced for the protection of the cargo. It means that no information must be given to terrorists to avoid a hijack of the plutonium. From that standpoint, any information concerning the route will not be announced at all. This is the internationally established way. The criticism that Japan is withholding information of the shipment more than is necessary is not true.

(2) Several routes are being considered, one of which will be chosen just before departure after total consideration of the natural surroundings, political and social situation, sea traffic conditions, etc. In other words, the route that will be selected will be one avoiding natural disasters and civil disturbance—the safest route of all.

(3) Japan will basically consider selecting a route so as not to enter an economic zone of 200 sea miles and there will be no scheduled port calls en route from departure to destination.

Toxicity of plutonium:

(1) Plutonium is certainly a material to which close attention must be paid in handling, as its danger lies in its radioactivity. Plutonium produces alpha radiation, but alpha radiation is a weak transmitter to materials and is blocked by a piece of paper. Therefore, even if plutonium conglutinates to the skin, the skin blocks alpha radiation and it is not a serious problem.

(2) Alpha radiation gives off much energy to a place where it is radiated, however. For example, if plutonium powder is absorbed and conglutinates to the lung, the cells absorb alpha radiation and there is a possibility of contracting lung cancer. This is the toxicity of plutonium, and it is quite different from the poison of chemical products such as potassium cyanide.

(3) Therefore, plutonium is handled in a special box to avoid the absorption of plutonium by workers. Japan's Power Reactor and Nuclear Fuel Development Corporation is well experienced and has been handling plutonium safely for more than 25 years.

France Approves Tokyo Plan

OW2910115892 Tokyo KYODO in English 1136 GMT
29 Oct 92

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 29 KYODO—The French Government has given the final go-ahead to Japan's plan to ship a cargo of plutonium from France, Japanese Government sources said Thursday.

The sources said Paris issued a permit to Tokyo despite the chorus opposing the plan to transport plutonium from France for use in Japan's fast-breeder nuclear energy program.

Japan intends to ship about 30 tons of plutonium over the next 20 years after it has been reprocessed in Britain and France from spent nuclear fuel from Japanese power plants.

The shipment plan has triggered concern in several countries and by international environmental groups about the

possibility of an accident at sea involving the extremely toxic substance. Plutonium is also a key ingredient for making nuclear weapons.

With the official approval, a specially equipped freighter, sent by the Japanese Government and now provisioning at an unspecified French military port, is likely to enter Cherbourg Port in western France soon to load the plutonium and take it home by the end of the year.

The 3,800-ton Akatsuki Maru will transport about 1.3 tons of plutonium, of which one ton is to be used as nuclear fuel, according to Power Reactor and Nuclear Fuel Development Corp., which undertook the transportation mission.

France's state-run nuclear fuel company Cogema has already completed packing the plutonium, which was recovered from spent fuel from Japanese power plants, in 133 casks the Japanese vessel will take on board.

Ship Enters French Port of Brest

OW3010011692 Tokyo KYODO in English 0019 GMT
30 Oct 92

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 30 KYODO—A Japanese ship which will carry a cargo of plutonium from France to Japan has entered the port of Brest in western France, an environmentalist group in Tokyo said Friday.

The group, which opposes the shipment, said it had received a report from France saying the 3,800-ton Akatsuki Maru sailed into Brest at 11:30 P.M. Thursday.

French Government officials said earlier that the ship will take on provisions at Brest and then go to Cherbourg in northwest France, where it will load the plutonium.

Earlier Thursday, the French Government formally approved Tokyo's plan to transport plutonium from France for use in Japan's fast-breeder nuclear energy program. The material was taken to France for reprocessing after being recovered from spent fuel from Japanese power plants.

The ship will transport about 1.3 tons of plutonium, which France's state-run nuclear fuel company Cogema has already packed in 133 casks at Cherbourg, 250 kilometers from Brest.

Japan intends to ship about 30 tons of plutonium from Europe over the next 20 years after it has been reprocessed in Britain and France from spent nuclear fuel from Japanese plants.

The plan has sparked apprehension in a number of countries and among international environmentalist groups about the possibility of an accident at sea involving the extremely toxic substance. Plutonium is also a key ingredient for making nuclear weapons.

The Akatsuki Maru will not make any port calls on its way home, and is expected to arrive in Japan with its plutonium cargo by the end of the year.

Citing security reasons, the Japanese and French Governments have been tight-lipped about what route the ship will take. It left Japan on August 24.

Latin American Opposition Noted

OW2710062392 Tokyo KYODO in English 0551 GMT
27 Oct 92

[Text] Mexico City, Oct. 27 KYODO—Five Latin American nations bordering the Pacific agreed in a meeting in Quito on Monday that they will refuse to allow a Japanese ship carrying plutonium to pass through their territorial waters.

The decision to bar the ship from their ports and territorial waters came in the meeting of the South Pacific Permanent Commission (SPPC), which is made up of Colombia, Chile, Ecuador, Panama and Peru.

The commission said it urged the Japanese Government to prevent the ship, the Akatsuki Maru, from using such routes as the Panama Canal or Cape Horn.

The 3,800-ton Akatsuki Maru is now on its way to Cherbourg, France to pick up and carry home a ton of the plutonium for use as fuel in a fast-breeder nuclear reactor.

Citing security reasons, the Japanese Government has kept the ship's course secret, resulting in a spate of speculation about which route it will take.

Other than the five SPPC countries, Argentina, Brazil and Caribbean states have already expressed their opposition to the passage of the Akatsuki Maru and its deadly cargo through their territorial waters.

Ecuador's Deputy Foreign Minister Jaime Marchan reportedly told the Quito meeting that whatever precautions might be taken, the plutonium "presents a real danger to health and the environment."

Indonesia Threatens Diversion

OW0211162092 Tokyo KYODO in English 1150 GMT
2 Nov 92

[Text] Jakarta, Nov. 2 KYODO—Armed Forces Commander Gen. Try Sutrisno [name as received] said Monday the Indonesian Navy will divert a plutonium-carrying Japanese ship away from the Strait of Malacca.

"It (the route) has to be safe. It means if an accident happens to the ship, it will not bring about human victims or environmental damage," Try told reporters.

He did not give details on what routes have been prepared for the Akatsuki Maru, in France to pick up a ton of the highly radioactive plutonium.

Try said there has not been any request so far from Japan to sail in Indonesian waters.

Foreign Minister Ali Alatas was quoted as saying by the KOMPAS daily Monday that Indonesia is firm in its stance of refusing the plutonium carrier permission to sail in its waters or ply the strait, however.

Try said in addition to being narrow, the Strait of Malacca is busy and difficult to navigate, "so the risk is high."

He said international law does not allow for the banning of certain ships from sailing the strait, "but there has to be understanding from all parties."

Asked about Japan keeping Akatsuki Maru's route a secret, try said it is difficult to keep a big ship's movements quiet.

"There has to be cooperation, especially when a ship plans to pass other country's territory."

The Akatsuki Maru's imminent arrival was awaited early Monday in France's northwestern port of Cherbourg to pick up the plutonium.

Many countries along the ship's possible routes have banned it from entering their waters.

Japan plans to transport around 30 tons of reprocessed plutonium in multiple shipments from Europe for its fast-breeder reactors.

MITI Hails Court Ruling on Nuclear Reactors

OW2910081692 Tokyo KYODO in English 0744 GMT
29 Oct 92

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 29 KYODO—Two antinuclear citizens groups Thursday lost their battles against the Fukushima and Ikata nuclear reactors when the Supreme Court dismissed their suits to withdraw construction permits for the reactors for safety reasons.

The court ruled the government had not violated regulations for safety examinations by issuing the permits as the plaintiffs had alleged, and that its decision to declare both reactors safe was made in accordance with law. The ruling upheld several lower court decisions.

It said there were no errors or defects in the comprehensive examination process. But the ruling also set a standard for future cases by reiterating that the government must make a comprehensive decision based on the best and latest technological, scientific knowledge and hearings by the Atomic Energy Commission and the Nuclear Safety Commission.

"The issuing of a permit must be ruled illegal if there are major errors during the hearing of the board of examining experts or the concrete examination standards are inconsistent," the ruling said.

The disputed reactors are Fukushima No. 2, in Okuma, Fukushima Prefecture, a 784,000 kilowatt boiling water reactor in operation since July 1974, and the 566,000 kilowatt pressurized water reactor Ikata No. 1 in Ikata, Ehime Prefecture, which began operating in September 1977.

It comes as opposition to nuclear power is increasing in the aftermath of international nuclear accidents like the 1986 Chernobyl disaster in Ukraine. Japanese citizens' trust in nuclear safety was further cut when the emergency core cooling system of Mihama No. 2 reactor in Mihama, Fukui Prefecture, had to go into operation after radioactive steam leaked in February 1991.

The ruling will likely deal a major blow to antinuclear activities, as the two groups of residents living close to the Ikata and Fukushima reactors were the first citizens to file administrative lawsuits against reactors for safety reasons.

Since the 16-member anti-Ikata group filed its suit in 1973 and 17 plaintiffs filed the Fukushima suit in 1975, 11 more groups have filed similar, still pending, suits doubting reactor safety.

According to the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI), Japan at present generates 27 percent of its electric power in 42 nuclear reactors.

To reach a projected 43 percent share for nuclear power, 23 more reactors with an output capacity of 1,000,000 kilowatts of electricity have to be built beyond the 13 presently planned or already under construction, MITI officials said.

"As this is the first Supreme Court decision to rule the government's permission for the construction of a nuclear reactor is legal, it has a very big significance," MITI Minister Kozo Watanabe said in welcoming the court decision.

Fusaichi Hirono, 80, spokesman for the Ikata plaintiffs said, "If we think about all the nuclear accidents that happened after we filed suit, the content of the court ruling is unbelievable."

He said for him the issue was not settled with the court decision and that he would continue to organize local opposition to nuclear power.

International Antinuclear Conference Planned

OW0211150992 Tokyo KYODO in English 1437 GMT
2 Nov 92

[Text] Yokohama, Nov. 2 KYODO—A five-day international antinuclear conference will be held in Yokohama and Hiroshima from Wednesday [4 November], conference organizers said Monday.

It is the sixth such meeting following the first denuclearization conference in Manchester, Britain, in 1984, but the first to be held in Asia, they said.

Pacifists and antinuclear activists—numbering some 70 from abroad and about 900 from 140 domestic nongovernmental organizations from 24 countries—will concentrate on how to rid the world of nuclear weapons in an effort to realize lasting peace, they said.

Ikuo Hirayama, head of the Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music, and a victim of the U.S. atomic bomb, will give a keynote speech Thursday, as will New Zealand's former Prime Minister David Lange.

Participants will discuss environmental issues, denuclearization, how citizens' groups can fight the spread of arms, and how municipalities can cooperate worldwide.

They will adopt a "Kanagawa Declaration" calling for a total ban on nuclear weapons before proceeding to Hiroshima on Sunday.

NORTH KOREA

Foreign Ministry Rejects CW Allegation

SK3110013792 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2200 GMT 30 Oct 92

[Excerpt] Some U.S. media have recently been circulating false information provided by the South Korean authorities that we have biochemical weapons. Yesterday [30 October] a spokesman for the DPRK Foreign Ministry answered a question asked by a Korean Central News Agency reporter as follows:

On 23 October the Voice of America quoted a report that the South Korean Agency for National Security Planning [NSP] submitted to the National Assembly. This report alleges that we have established a biochemical war strategy and stockpiled enough chemical and germ warfare weapons to totally destroy the South Korean population and that toxic materials are being produced at several factories.

This is another slander that the United States and the South Korean authorities have thought up in order to invent a new pretext for increasing tension on the Korean peninsula and resuming the Team Spirit joint military exercise.[passage omitted]

Government Notes Condition for Korean Contacts

SK2710111492 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1950 GMT
27 OCT 92

[Text] Pyongyang October 27 (KCNA)—The government, political parties and organisations of the DPRK held a joint meeting today and adopted a resolution to jointly cope with the situation created by the decision to resume the Team Spirit war exercises.

The resolution warns that in case the United States and the South Korean authorities resume the war exercises, not only the inter-Korean high-level talks but all other dialogues and contacts with the South Korean authorities including the joint committees of different domains will be suspended.

The resolution denounces the decision of the United States and the South Korean authorities to resume the Team Spirit joint military maneuvers and shelve the "second-stage reduction plan" of the U.S. troops in South Korea as an unpardonable criminal act which will bring the situation on the Korean peninsula back to the original state of the confrontation era, wreck all North-South dialogue and block the implementation of the documents of North-South agreement already adopted.

Today when the nuclear inspection is under way the United States says that it will resume the Team Spirit which it suspended before the nuclear inspection of the DPRK by the International Atomic Energy Agency, crying over the "nuclear problem" of the DPRK, a sheer fiction. Branding this as a nonsensical, brigandish logic, the resolution says:

If the United States and the South Korean authorities go ahead with the plan of the Team Spirit joint military maneuvers despite our repeated warning, it is virtually meaningless to hold dialogue between the authorities of the North and the South.

Even if the dialogue between the authorities of the North and the South is suspended, we will continue to promote dialogue and contacts between political parties, public organizations and people.

All the Koreans and organisations in the North and the South and overseas should actively wage a nationwide movement to check and frustrate the plan of the United States and the South Korean authorities to resume the Team Spirit which is harmful to the interests of the entire nation.

The North side's headquarters of the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification (Pomminnyon) shall take necessary steps such as appealing to the preparatory committee for the formation of the South side's headquarters, overseas

headquarters and regional headquarters to actively conduct in keeping with their specific conditions the movement for denouncing the decision of the United States and the South Korean authorities to resume the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises and for checking and frustrating it.

We call upon all the Koreans in the North and the South and overseas to invigorate the nationwide movement for the conversion of the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free, peace zone and the withdrawal of U.S. Weapons and nuclear weapons from South Korea.

The power bodies of all levels, political parties and public organizations in the northern half of Korea shall keep themselves full ready to counter possible military provocations by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean bellicose elements.

The government of the republic and all the political parties and public organizations will take positive external steps to induce the governments, parliaments, political parties, public organizations and peoples of all countries in the world that love peace to pay deep attention to the grave situation obtaining on the Korean peninsula, lift up loud voices opposing the resumption of the "Team Spirit" and render full support to our people's just cause of peace and peaceful reunification of the country.

In this regard, a letter to the governments, political parties and parliaments of all countries in the world will be adopted first in the name of this joint meeting.

The resolution calls upon all the Koreans who love the country and the nation to turn out in the struggle to smash the new war provocation moves of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities, whether they live in the North, or in the South, or abroad.

SOUTH KOREA

North's Nuclear Capacity, Development Revealed

SK2610123592 Seoul WOLGAN CHOSON in Korean
Aug 92 pp 269-71

[Interview with unidentified 'person responsible' for South Korea's nuclear development program during the Pak Chong-hui administration by Yu Yong-won; place and date not given: "Full-Scale Nuclear Development Can Probably Be Blocked"]

[Text]

We Must Concentrate Our Efforts In Checking The Atomic Reactor

There are many people who compare North Korea's nuclear development with the nuclear development pursued in South Korea during the President Pak regime in the mid-1970s. From the aspect that nuclear weapons were pursued by securing reprocessing facilities and plutonium, the North resembles the South. Yet the dominant opinion is that nuclear development during the President Pak regime became an accelerant for the North's nuclear development.

The person who knows the most about the characteristics and level of nuclear development was the person responsible for the South's nuclear development at that time, since he controlled the planning and regulation of the South's

nuclear development by apportioning the roles of many atomic power experts through secret compartmentalization. On 2 July 1992, I went to this person's house and was able to spend about two hours with him. With some effort, he began to speak on the precondition the questions be limited to those concerning North Korean nuclear development. At his request, I am unable to publish his name or picture.

[Yu Yong-won] North Korea's attempts at nuclear development have been confirmed by the IAEA [International Atomic Energy Agency] inspections. There are various opinions concerning their capability, however.

[Mr. X] Even in North Korea's nuclear development, Yi Sung-ki's methods probably appear. Just as they went forth under the banner of chuche ideology and have put vinylon, an obsolete product, to practical use, so too did North Korea attempt nuclear development without foreign assistance.

Nuclear weapons manufacturing theory is already so widely known that it appears in college textbooks, but when you get right down to it, it is easier to talk about it than to make one. There are many more barriers than the common man can imagine in conducting secret nuclear development independently without the assistance of advanced nations.

[Yu] Many experts point out that in addition to the large-scale reprocessing facility at Yongbyon there must be a small-scale pilot plant hidden somewhere....

[X] They are right. Normally the steps in development are from testing laboratory to pilot plant to commercial factory. There is a tendency for each step to grow ten fold in size.

[Yu] Concerning the amount of plutonium that North Korea possesses, there are those who say that they possess an insufficient amount to produce even a single Nagasaki-class nuclear bomb, and then there are those who say that they already possess a sufficient amount to manufacture two nuclear bombs.

[X] Many experts cling to things such as reprocessing facilities, but in reality, an atomic reactor holds the key to the nuclear development problem. If spent fuel is not extracted from an atomic reactor, even if there is a reprocessing facility, it will be useless, will it not? Therefore, the efforts must be concentrated on checking North Korea's atomic reactor.

[Yu] The amount of spent fuel extracted from the 5MW-class experimental reactor at Yongbyon, which has been operational for six years since 1986, is a pressing concern.

North Korea maintains that it has been unable to operate the atomic reactor for the past six years due to technical difficulties and that it will be 1996 before the nuclear fuel piles will be exchanged for the first time. There are many South Korean nuclear experts who estimate that the nuclear fuel piles have been exchanged several times and that a vast amount of spent fuel has been extracted.

[X] The key to the problem is still the amount of spent fuel. To really address this problem in detail, I would have to talk some about the old days (of the nuclear development conducted during the President Pak Chong-hui era). I will not comment in detail any further.

Independent Development Of A Triggering Device Is Possible

[Yu] North Korea has admitted to extracting a small amount (several gram units) of plutonium in 1990. To what extent do you feel North Korea has secured plutonium?

[X] Because the amount of plutonium extracted is different according to the operational method of the atomic reactor, it is difficult to say conclusively. Looking at the basis of the IAEA report which said that there is only a single 5 MWe atomic reactor that is operational and that there are 50 MWe and a 200 MWe atomic reactors under construction, it seems that full-scale nuclear development can be blocked if the completion of the atomic reactors currently under construction can be blocked and additional atomic energy construction is kept under control.

[Yu] North Korea can smuggle plutonium into North Korea from foreign countries. There were reports that North Korea smuggled in 56 kilograms of plutonium from the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS).

[X] Plutonium can be smuggled in from foreign countries, but I feel that a transaction for that large of an amount would be difficult.

[Yu] The fact that North Korea possesses reprocessing technology has been confirmed through their own admission that they have extracted plutonium. Does not this mean that North Korea's atomic power technology is ahead of the South?

[X] Technically speaking, reprocessing is not all that difficult. Looking back to only the mid-1970s, students were conducting reprocessing in research centers and, of course, in university laboratories. Reprocessing can also be conducted underground in secret.

As I mentioned above, an atomic reactor that produces spent fuel is more important than reprocessing. As an atomic reactor cannot be constructed underground, checking is easy.

[Yu] Although they say plutonium has been secured, if there is no triggering device and special detonator like a HMX detonator, they cannot make a nuclear weapon. What is your evaluation of North Korea's technical level in this field?

[X] North Korea can make a triggering device on their own, but without the assistance of China or the Soviet Union, a special detonator will probably be extremely difficult for North Korea to develop independently.

[Yu] We know that it is difficult to develop a triggering device without a high-speed camera, but we have yet to hear anything about North Korea possessing or smuggling a high-speed camera into the North.

[X] It is not impossible to develop a triggering device without a high-speed camera. The nuclear weapon that uses a triggering device developed without a high-speed camera,

will probably be both quite crude and dirty, because of the high amount of radioactive fallout.

[Yu] According to U.S. intelligence, North Korea has conducted all together about 70 internal detonation tests in the sandy marshes by the Kuryong River at Yongbyon from the mid-1980s to 1990. There are those who say, based on this information, that North Korea has already completed triggering device development. Do you think that 70 testing attempts are sufficient for development?

[X] Internal detonation testing can be conducted not only above ground but underground as well. For North Korea to conduct internal detonation testing in that kind of exposed location is beyond expectations, however. Internal detonation testing is not a test of the destructive power of a high yield detonator. Rather it tests the destructive power of a small "precise" explosion. Thus, it can be conducted even inside a laboratory. Because the level of North Korea's precision machinery is not high, I feel that around 70 tests would be insufficient for nuclear development.

[Yu] How many tests will it take before they are able to develop a triggering device?

[X] Well, it might take over a hundred tests. In South Korea's case, where the level of technology in the precision machinery sector is more advanced than the North, it would probably take less than 100 tests to complete development.

[Yu] According to a source familiar with the IAEA, outside of the three hot cells inside the "radiation chemistry laboratory" previously announced by North Korea, there are perhaps seven hot cells inside an "isotope processing facility"....

[X] A hot cell itself is not an important facility. As it is harmful if people actually touch materials which emit strong radiation, you need to think of these facilities as isolated rooms where these harmful materials are placed and are worked on with remote-controlled robot arms. I do not believe there is any great significance in whether there is a large number or small number of hot cells.

JNCC Meeting Set for 29 Oct at Panmunjom

SK2810073592 Seoul YONHAP in English 0723 GMT
28 Oct 92

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 28 (OANA-YONHAP)—South and North Korea hold working-level talks of the inter-Korean Joint Nuclear Control Commission (JNCC) Thursday to discuss mutual inspection sites and procedures.

Vice chairmen of the commission will lead the contact at the truce village of Panmunjom but observers, here say they do not expect dramatic breakthroughs.

Seoul is to insist on including military facilities in the inspection sites, while Pyongyang will demand that South Korea give up resumption of its annual military exercise "Team Spirit" with the United States before discussing inspection procedures.

Thursday's talks follow the ninth commission meeting Oct. 22.

China May Play Role in Korean Nuclear Issue

SK2710061392 Seoul YONHAP in English 0547 GMT
27 Oct 92

[Excerpt] Seoul, Oct. 27 (YONHAP)—Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok said Tuesday he believed China could play an important role in the resolution of North Korea's nuclear issue.

Although China has publicly taken a position that the nuclear question should be solved through dialogue between South and North Korea, Beijing could perform a decisive part as it did for the simultaneous entry into the United Nations by the two Koreas last year, Yi told a breakfast meeting at the press center sponsored by the Korea Regional Research Institute.[passage omitted]

BULGARIA

Reports on Seizure of Plutonium-239

Facts 'Kept Secret'

AU0111204692 Sofia BTA in English 2037 GMT 1 Nov 92

["Plutonium-239 Detected and Seized"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, November 1 (BTA)—BTA learned from the Central Service for Organized Crime Control that the law enforcement units of the Ministry of the Interior had detected and seized a certain quantity of plutonium-239. The National Investigative Service ordered investigation of the case. All related facts and circumstances are kept secret for the purposes of the investigation.

Papers Comment

AU0211092792 Sofia BTA in English 0915 GMT 2 Nov 92

[From the BTA 2 November "Press Review"]

[Excerpt] Sofia, November 2 (BTA)—"SUNDAY EXPRESS Uncovers Deal of Bulgarian-Russian Communist Mafia," (DEMOKRATSIYA), "Russian Plutonium Enough for 20 Nuclear Bombs Was To Reach Iraq via Bulgaria" (KONTINENT), "Bulgarians Involved in Nuclear Deal" (TRUD), "British Journalists Uncover Deal, Interior Ministry Seizes Part of the Consignment at Sheraton Hotel in Sofia" (subtitle in DUMA), and "The Case Is Blown Up, Bulgarian Authorities Claim" (subtitle in 24 CHASA),—this is a sample of the headlines under which the dailies frontpage reports of the article published in the British SUNDAY EXPRESS, weekly according to which journalists of the weekly helped prevent a deal for the sale of 80 kg. of plutonium smuggled out of Russian plants. Late last night BTA learnt from the Central Service for Organized Crime Control that officers of the Bulgarian Ministry of the Interior have discovered and confiscated plutonium-239. The National Investigation Service has started preliminary investigation and the related facts and circumstances are kept secret for the purposes of the investigation. According to TRUD the Press Office of the Ministry of the Interior is preparing an official announcement which is to specify the report of the British weekly alluding to a Bulgarian connection. [passage omitted]

Iraqi Embassy Denies Reports

AU0311060092 Sofia BTA in English 2035 GMT 2 Nov 92

[Text] Sofia, November 2 (BTA)—The radioactive capsules containing plutonium material, seized by the Central Service for Organized Crime Control, do not represent a hazard to public health and to the environment, the Bulgarian Interior Ministry said in a press release this evening. The ministry reacted to an article by Barry Penrose in the November 1, 1992 SUNDAY EXPRESS of London, which says there was an international conspiracy to supply Iraq with weapons-grade plutonium via Sofia.

According to Mr. Penrose, an international gang allegedly smuggled 300 kg of pure plutonium from Russian plants and delivered it to the Iraqi Embassy in Sofia from where the radioactive material was to be taken out of Bulgaria by diplomatic post.

The Interior Ministry said that the law enforcement authorities were alerted on October 29 about a travelling bag containing radioactive substances having been left in the cloakroom of the Sofia Sheraton. Law enforcement officers seized the bag and found that it had been left by one Barry Penrose, British subject who had left Bulgaria on October 28, 1992. His identity was confirmed by the British Embassy in Sofia.

The Central Service for Organized Crime Control obtained a fax message sent by the said Barry Penrose to a personal acquaintance of his, Vili Kavaldzhiev of the Cultural Section of the Union of Democratic Forces, detailing the British journalist's independent investigation and summarizing the story which appeared in the SUNDAY EXPRESS.

Experts of the Central Service for Organized Crime Control found that the 140 radioactive capsules discovered in the bag contained plutonium material superficially implanted into ceramics and placed in a metal holder. The overall content of pure radioactive plutonium in the 140 capsules was up to 0.2 grammes, the Interior Ministry said. The capsules are used in army analysers of chemical warfare agents.

The radioactive capsules were stolen from the Sofia-based Company Electroncommerce on December 25, 1991, and an investigation into the case started back at that time, the Central Service said. The capsules were intended for return to the Russian manufacturing plants because Bulgaria did not need them.

Interior Ministry experts describe as ridiculous Mr. Penrose's allegations that there are 300 kg of plutonium in Bulgaria. It would take large quantities of pure plutonium to make any bomb, while the minimum amount contained in the stolen capsule can only be extracted by a complicated chemical technology and is unusable for nuclear weapons, the ministry emphasizes.

Before the cabinet meeting today Interior Minister Yordan Sokolov told the press that information on the case had been withheld from the media for operational considerations.

BTA today received a letter from the Iraqi Embassy in Sofia categorically denying the Bulgarian mass media reports of the SUNDAY EXPRESS story about a delivery of plutonium to Iraq via Sofia. The publication in the British weekly comes as part of a totally unjustified campaign intended to discredit Bulgarian-Iraqi relations and to carry on the boycott against Iraq, the letter says.

Reactors at Kozloduy Nuclear Plant Viewed

AU2710122592 Sofia PODKREPA in Bulgarian 21 Oct 92 p 1

[Staff report: "Kozloduy Nuclear Plant Gradually Restores Capacity"]

[Text] As of 20 October, the Fourth Reactor of the Kozloduy Nuclear Power Plant is functioning at 50 percent of its 440-megawatt capacity. Vibrations which have developed in one of the reactor's turbines after the repair have prevented the activation of the reactor's full capacity. The entire Kozloduy Nuclear Power Plant is presently functioning at the capacity of one of its old reactors. The Third Reactor is also functioning at 50 percent of its capacity, while the First and Second Reactors are presently being

inspected by a representative of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA]. The purpose of the inspection is to bring the old reactors up to date with the nuclear safety's international requirements. The IAEA inspectors have positively assessed the work related to reconstructing those reactors. According to the schedule, the Second Reactor will be activated at the end of November, and the first, in the spring of 1993.

The Fifth and Sixth Reactors have been switched off while waiting for the spare parts to arrive from Russia.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Slovakia Imports Nuclear Fuel From German Plant

AU3010145092 Prague CSTK in English 2158 GMT 26 Oct 92

[Text] Bratislava/Jaslovske Bohunice October 26 (CSTK)—The obstruction of the transfer of 120 unused uranium fuel rods from the Greifswald nuclear power plant does not jeopardize the operation of the Jaslovske Bohunice nuclear power plant in West Slovakia, plant director Robert Gunis told CSTK today.

Several dozen members of the international ecological organization Greenpeace have been blockading the entrance to the Greifswald, North Germany, plant since Sunday [25 October] morning to prevent the transfer of the fuel rods.

The rods are of the type currently in use at Jaslovske Bohunice, Gunis said. Germany offered Jaslovske Bohunice the rods after shutting down the Greifswald plant. The reactors at both power plants are of identical VVER types, made in the former Soviet Union.

Gunis said the offer was accepted to alleviate the fuel needs of Jaslovske Bohunice. The blockade presented no immediate problems, he said.

He said he believed the conservationists do not want to block the actual operation of Jaslovske Bohunice, but oppose all operations of its type of reactor.

Greenpeace Spokesman Thomas Schulz said on German Television this morning that unused fuel rods should be delivered from Greifswald to Jaslovske Bohunice and other eastern European lands. But it is known that all reactors in Eastern Europe have security risk limits 100 times higher than modern nuclear power plants, he added.

Jaslovske Bohunice has four water pressure reactors with an output of 430 megawatts each. One of the reactors has been out of operation since 1979. Launched in 1972, it was shut down due to an accident. The other blocks were put into operation in the late 1970's and early 1980's.

[Bratislava NARODNA OBRODA in Slovak on 29 October on page 5 carries a 100-word CSTK report noting that the German Police dispersed the Greenpeace protesters on 26 October at night and that "still that night the nuclear fuel rods were dispatched to Jaslovske Bohunice."]

CARIBBEAN AFFAIRS

CCC Urges Action Against Toxic Transport

FL2010190992 Bridgetown CANA in English 1756 GMT
20 Oct 92

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Oct 20, CANA—The Barbados-based Caribbean Conference of Churches (CCC) has expressed condemnation of a proposed shipment of plutonium through Caribbean waters this month.

The ecumenical Church grouping Monday advised regional governments to request Japan, Britain, and France to "terminate all acts" and plans to separate plutonium and transport irradiated nuclear fuel, plutonium, and nuclear waste across international or national waters or boundaries.

Additionally, the governments of the Caribbean were urged to pass legislation prohibiting the movement and passage of shipments of hazardous material, especially plutonium, irradiated nuclear fuel, and nuclear waste "through their territorial and economic zone waters." The CCC, in a statement voicing support for regional environmentalists, said the governments of the region should take a position on the shipment that was "principled and uncompromising."

The Japanese freighter, Akatsuki Maru, is due to leave the French port of Cherbourg this month for a journey originally intended to take it through the Mona Passage and the Panama Canal. U.S. media reports have said Washington is not permitting the Panama Canal to be used by the freighter and a trip around the tip of South America is planned.

The Caribbean Conservation Association (CCA) has asked regional governments to do their utmost to ensure the vessel does not pass through the Caribbean and highlighted the dangers to populations of nuclear fallout.

Caricom Secretariat Seeks Data on Plutonium Threat

FL2110181292 Bridgetown CANA in English 1741 GMT
21 Oct 92

[Text] Port of Spain, Trinidad, Oct 21, CANA—the Guyana-based Caribbean Community (Caricom) secretariat is seeking information from international agencies on the threat the Caribbean is likely to face from a shipment of plutonium reportedly planned for later this month.

Caricom's secretary-general, Edwin Carrington, said the enquiries to the International Atomic Energy Agency, the International Maritime Organisation, and the United Nations Environment Programme follow concerns expressed by regional foreign ministers this month in New York. Environmentalists say the Akatsuki Maru, a Japanese ship, will be transporting more than a tonne of the highly radioactive plutonium from France through the Caribbean to Japan.

"We have, on the instructions of the ministers, had to make contact.... To establish the nature of the danger we face, to seek the kind of assurances about the conditions (under) which this kind of product is transhipped, and to guarantee ourselves that the region does not stand in any great danger should an accident or mishap occur while such product is shipped through the region's seas," Carrington told reporters in Port of Spain.

"The ministers were concerned not to strike an alarmist call but to operate on the basis of sound, objective technical assessment, and this is what we are trying to establish at the moment," Carrington said the secretariat had learned that the plutonium was being shipped "over a period of time." This, he said, "increases the danger."

Byron Blake, the director of trade and industry at the secretariat, said the Caribbean had to be made aware of shipments of

"In fact in 1991, there were some 13 of these shipments," he said, adding that in most cases the region was not informed about the nature of the cargo. "But while those materials might not be as dangerous... Or expansive in their nature as the plutonium, there is a real threat in terms of materials across the Caribbean Sea." He said in 1990, regional environmental ministers had sought to get information about proposed shipments of dangerous material through the Caribbean.

"Now, because of the nature of this particular case, it is even worse because it is shrouded in secrecy. As of now, we do not know whether it will be across the Caribbean, whether it would go down the African coast, when it will be, so it is even worse, because of the nature of secrecy covering the shipment," Blake remarked.

Trinidad and Tobago's main opposition party, which is strongly opposing the shipment of the plutonium, has called on regional governments to take appropriate action to protect their citizens and the environment. The United National Congress (C) said it was concerned about the "almost frightening and weak response by the governments" in the event of an accident at sea. The party said the material which was used for making nuclear weapons represented one of the most toxic substances known to mankind. The C said it was estimated that a single microgram can cause cancer and the proposed shipment through the region's water poses a dangerous threat to public health, safety, and the environment. Many nations, the party said in a statement, had banned the shipment—which contained enough plutonium to build at least 30 nuclear bombs or 120 crude nuclear devices—from passing through their waters.

"In seeking to develop the region as a zone of environmental protection, it is absolutely vital that the Caribbean countries and governments speak out against this outrage and take collective action against the Japanese Government over the transportation of the shipment," the opposition party said.

Position Detailed

FL2310161692 Bridgetown CANA in English 1448 GMT
23 Oct 92

[Text] Kingstown, St. Vincent, Oct 23, CANA—The St. Vincent and the Grenadines Christian Council is urging Caribbean heads of government to seek international backing to ensure the environment is not threatened by the proposed shipment of plutonium through the region beginning this month.

The council said it had communicated its concern to Caricom secretary-general, Dr. Edwin Carrington, and had also written to prime minister, James Mitchell on the matter.

"The Christian Council... viewed with horror and dismay the fact that the first of several shipments of the highly toxic

chemical, plutonium, is to be shipped from France to Japan via the Caribbean Sea and the Panama Canal.

"This decision is unpalatable to all Caribbean people and must be resisted by all legal means possible in conjunction with other people of the Caribbean and elsewhere," the council said in its letter to Mitchell.

The council is urging that the Caricom heads, at their meeting in Trinidad and Tobago this month, "leave no stone unturned in calling on the entire international community to see to it that the environment in this disadvantaged part of the universe be not put at risk because of the insensitivity of the industrialised countries."

Mitchell, at a news conference this month refused to indicate what his government's position [is] on the matter, saying that it would be decided on at a Caricom level.

Sponsors UN Resolution

FL3110140892 Bridgetown CANA in English 0004 GMT 30 Oct 92

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Oct 30, CANA—A joint resolution will be sponsored by all Caribbean Community (Caricom) countries at the United Nations in an effort to block a scheduled shipment of plutonium from France to Japan, which it is believed will [as received] (1) that shipments of plutonium and other hazardous materials should not traverse the Caribbean Sea, (2) that the Caribbean should not be used as an area for the testing of nuclear devices and, (3) that the Caribbean Sea should be declared a nuclear-free zone for the purposes of shipment, storage, or dumping of any nuclear substances or toxic waste. The heads have also agreed that in tabling the resolution, Caricom should seek the support of all the countries in the Caribbean basin.

"Here we have an excellent opportunity for cooperation in our proposed association of Caribbean states," Maraj added.

A Japanese ship was reported to have sailed from the French port of Brest on Friday morning for another French port, Cherbourg, to load the shipment of plutonium for Japan. There has been an outcry in the Caribbean and by the international environmentalist group, Greenpeace, to halt the shipment. The Japanese have responded by claiming that all possible efforts, including use of modern protective devices, are being used to ensure there will not be an accident.

Plutonium is a radioactive element used as fuel in nuclear operations.

ARGENTINA

Brazil Opposes Japanese Plutonium Shipment

PY2610220692 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1927 GMT 26 Oct 92

[Text] Buenos Aires, 26 Oct (TELAM)—The Brazilian Government today supported the position that Argentina and Chile have jointly adopted, refusing to allow the Japanese ship Akatsuki Maru, which carries 1,700 kg of plutonium, to sail in the territorial waters of those countries.

This decision is included in a joint communique released today in Buenos Aires at the end of meetings that Argentine

Foreign Minister Guido Di Tella and his Brazilian counterpart, Fernando Cardoso, held at San Martin Palace on 24 and 25 October.

In the communique, the two foreign ministries reviewed the various topics in which the two countries are interested, as well as multilateral matters like the possible presence in this part of the continent of the Japanese ship with its nuclear cargo.

In this regard, Cardoso said his country has notified the Japanese Government of its decision on the inappropriateness of the ship's presence in Brazilian territorial waters.

The communique also supported the position adopted by Argentina and Chile at the foreign ministers' meeting on 21 October in Buenos Aires, when a decision was made to call on other countries of the region to join the protest to the Japanese Government, voicing their disagreement with the possible selection of the southern route.

The communique stated that the two foreign ministers have fully confirmed the objectives of the upcoming meeting of the Group of Rio presidents to be held here on 1 and 2 December.

The two ministers also supported a call for a meeting of the OAS General Assembly, which is expected to strengthen regional mechanisms for preserving democracy.

Di Tella and Cardoso reiterated their governments' firm commitment to bilateral integration and to the Mercosur [Common Market of the South], emphasizing the need to fulfill the objectives and targets of the Treaty of Asuncion—which gave rise to the free trade zone—and the timetable that was designed in Las Lenas.

CHILE

Foreign Minister on Japanese Nuclear Cargo

PY2710120492 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 27 Oct 92

[Text] Foreign Minister Enrique Silva Cimma has asserted that Chile's position regarding the passage of the Japanese ship Akatsuki Maru, which is carrying a cargo of plutonium, by no means influences President Patricio Aylwin's visit to Japan next month.

Silva Cimma said that the government is aware that the Akatsuki Maru has already taken radioactive cargo through the Panama Canal.

[Begin recording] [Silva] In other words, we are aware that trip was made and, according to the information we have, the ship was escorted by practically the entire Japanese fleet.

[Reporter] Does Chile's position not affect President Aylwin's visit to Japan?

[Silva] By no means. One thing has nothing to do with the other. [end recording]

In the next few days minister Silva will send a note to Japan explaining why Chile does not agree to the Akatsuki Maru sailing round Cape Horn.

PANAMA

Government Policy on Japanese Radioactive Cargo

PA2810190792 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE
PANAMA in Spanish 28 Oct 92 p 1

[Statement issued by the Panamanian Government; place and date not given]

[Text] The Panamanian Government, aware of its responsibility and role in the administration and operation of the canal, in light of the possibility that a plutonium-laden ship coming from France bound for Japan may transit the Panama Canal, publicly reiterates the following:

1. The national government shares the public opinion and concern regarding the risks involved in the transit through the Panama Canal of ships which, because of their operation, means of propulsion, armament, or cargo pose a potential threat to the population, environment, or Panama Canal installations.
2. By virtue of the provisions of the 1977 Panama Canal Treaties, the Republic of Panama, as territorial sovereign, granted the United States for the duration of this treaty the necessary rights to regulate the transit of ships through the Panama Canal and to administer, operate, and maintain the canal.
3. At the request of the Foreign Ministry, the Panama Canal Administration has stated that the transiting of any ship with radioactive material is authorized if the legal requisites of the United States and of the International Atomic Energy

Agency (IAEA) pertaining to the packing and transportation of this material have been met. On demanding compliance with the above regulations, the Panama Canal Administration considers the Panamanian environment secure, because the probabilities of dispersion of the radioactive material is virtually nil.

4. Finally, it is the position of the national government that the administration of the Panama Canal Commission, exercising its rights to ensure fulfillment of the regulations and other provisions on the transit of ships through the Panama Canal, must consider anything that poses an imminent risk to the life and health of the people, environment, ecological balance, or canal installations and, therefore, must prevent it from crossing the Panama Canal area.

PERU

Nuclear Agency Seeks Data on Plutonium Shipment

PY2910182192 Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish
16 Oct 92 p 1

[Text] The Peruvian Institute of Nuclear Energy (IPEN) has contacted the Foreign Ministry in order to ask the Japanese Government to provide a detailed report on the exact date, frequencies, and routes to be used by the ship that will transport 45 tonnes of plutonium from the Orient to European port.

The request was made by Renan Ramirez, IPEN National Authority Technical Office director.

EGYPT

Musa on Conditions for Nuclear Disarmament*NC2810190992 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1616 GMT
28 Oct 92*

[Text] Cairo, 28 Oct (MENA)—Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa has said that Egypt has determined that the elimination of conventional and chemical weapons not be discussed unless the removal of nuclear weapons is discussed simultaneously. He added that the elimination of nuclear weapons should have priority over the elimination of other types of weapons.

In an interview with the magazine AL-MUSAWWAR, Musa said that Israel's nonparticipation in a nuclear nonproliferation agreement creates an unbalanced situation. This is why, he says, no country should be excluded in discussions about security or about eliminating or controlling armaments. The interview will be published in the Friday [30 October] edition.

Musa added: Specifically, we will not join an agreement about chemical weapons unless Israel participates in the international nuclear order. We made this proposal to the UN General Assembly and discussed it with the Israelis, the Americans, the Europeans, and with the multilateral negotiations disarmament committee.

We do not view Israel as an opponent of the Arabs, Musa said, adding: We see it as a Middle East country and as long as it is such it must act like one. There must be no exceptions in the region. The major powers must make Israel adhere to the general disarmament policy, he said. Otherwise, we will stay out of the chemical weapons agreement.

Writer Faults West for Iran's Nuclear Arsenal*NC0111075292 Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 28 Oct 92 p 2*

[Article by Muhammad Sayyid Ahmad: "What if Iran Possesses the Nuclear Bomb?"]

[Text] During the celebrations marking the 50th anniversary of the historic battle of al-'Alamayn, there was much talk on the need to clear the western desert of mines, which have prevented this region from being developed safely. The discussion, which involved the senior officials who came to Egypt on this occasion—foremost being the British prime minister—also touched on the need to remove "mines" from the entire Middle East region, as represented in particular by some regional countries' possession of undeclared nuclear weapons. The discussion also noted that the time has come to turn the entire Middle East into a region free of nuclear weapons.

Israel always has obstructed that end because of its possession of an undeclared arsenal of nuclear weapons. Worse still is that several Western capitals still believe, despite what the current peace process promises in terms of possibly reaching a settlement, that Israel has a "moral" right to retain, indefinitely, its secret arsenal of nuclear weapons. Their argument is that despite the progress in the talks, there is nothing to prove that the Arab intentions toward peace are sincere. Thus, they add, it is the right of the Hebrew state to secure itself in case of emergency.

Informed European sources now confirm that Iran also possesses a number of nuclear bombs under a secret deal it concluded with certain quarters in an Islamic state that was previously part of the Soviet Union. The sources say that the deal was not confined only to weapons, but that it also included crews of scientists and experts who could ensure their operation and maintenance. Some states in the Russian Commonwealth denied the news, but the Western sources emphasize that the denial is only camouflage. The sources add that there is nothing strange about it, since there was talk about the need to set up a scientific organization to employ scientists from the former Soviet Union specialized in the fields of mass destruction weapons. Under the project, it was decided to give each scientist a salary not exceeding \$300 per month! Could such a salary offset attempts by countries seeking to possess internationally banned weapons to lure these scientists into working for them in return for generous pay?

What is worth emphasizing is that the West's silence over Israel's nuclear arsenal at a time when they do not show any leniency toward Iraq—which is an Arab country said to have made tangible progress toward manufacturing nuclear weapons—has led to exactly the opposite of what the Western leaders had sought. Instead of preventing the proliferation of these banned weapons in the Middle East, they have increased in number, so much so that it is difficult to inspect them. As a result, a country which is accused of Islamic extremism has become a match for the Zionist state in this regard. Is this what the Western capitals are after?

INDIA

Substitute for Enriched Uranium May Be Produced*BK2810160292 Hong Kong AFP in English 1521 GMT
28 Oct 92*

[Text] New Delhi, Oct 28 (AFP)—India's atomic energy chief said Wednesday that India would produce a substitute for nuclear fuel if France refused to continue the supply of enriched uranium for the Tarapur atomic power plant after 1993.

P.K. Iyengar, chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, was quoted by the Press Trust of India (PTI) as saying that "our scientists are capable enough to produce 'MOX'," a mixture of plutonium oxide and natural uranium oxide. MOX would act as a substitute for the French-supplied enriched uranium.

France has reportedly told India it will be unable to continue the supplies after the present agreement to supply the Tarapur plant, located near Bombay, expires next year unless New Delhi signs the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). New Delhi takes the stand that the NPT discriminates between the nuclear haves and the have-nots and refuses to sign it in its present shape, a stand that Iyengar reiterated Wednesday.

Iyengar told a press conference in Bombay that India had developed the required technology to build the enriched uranium substitute, and added: "It is not easy to subject India to any pressure and we have the inherent strength to tide over any crisis."

He also reportedly said India was capable of developing its own rocket technology if Russia bowed to U.S. pressure and

backed out of a 200 million dollar deal to supply rocket engines for its space programme.

Washington has slapped trade sanctions on both the Indian and the Russian space agencies to force a cancellation of the deal it alleges would violate missile non-proliferation laws.

IRAQ

UN Team Gains Information on Ballistic Missiles

NC3010100992 Paris AFP in English 0929 GMT 30 Oct 92

[Excerpts] Baghdad, Oct 30 (AFP)—The leader of a U.N. weapons team trying to track down any remaining Iraqi Scud missiles said on Friday they had filled in "many gaps" about President Saddam Husayn's weapons capability.

Team leader Nikita Smidovich, who said on arrival that he would be following up reports that Iraq could still have up to 200 Scuds, said "we have covered all uncleared areas."

Smidovich, who had earlier complained that the Iraqis were withholding information, said their attitude had become "positive" and they were "open and candid with us in discussing a whole range of issues." [passage omitted]

"Many gaps were closed" regarding information on Iraq's ballistic missiles, while the "conclusion on some others that may still remain depends on our analysis" said Smidovich.

The team visited more than 50 sites and held hours of talks with Iraqi officials.

Smidovich refused to say if they had found any hidden missiles, but commented that the mission was "a bit different."

U.N. sources said the team was trying to find out if Iraq still had the capability to launch missiles with a range of more than 150 kilometres (90 miles), which it must eliminate under last year's Gulf war ceasefire resolutions.

Smidovich could not say if it would be necessary to send another U.N. missile team "as we have collected a lot of information" that would have to be analyzed. He reckoned that the United Nations would now move to verifying Iraq's "long term compliance" with ceasefire resolutions.

These ordered the destruction of its weapons of mass destruction.

German Scientist Says U.S. Sold Uranium to Allies

JN0311145292 Baghdad INA in English 1315 GMT 3 Nov 92

[Text] Baghdad, Nov. 3, INA—A well-known German scientist has disclosed important documents on U.S. nuclear material and equipment sold to a number of allied countries which took part in the U.S.-led aggression against Iraq.

Professor Siegwart Gunther produced the documents to the Iraqi English language newspaper 'THE BAGHDAD OBSERVER' and which included an export licence which expired on March 31, 1992. The licence authorized the export of 500,000 kilograms of depleted uranium in the form of metal from the United States to Britain. Another licence which dates to September 13, 1969, authorized the export of depleted uranium from the U.S. to Saudi Arabia. The licence tells of 25,725 kg of depleted uranium ammunition at a total cost of 5,737,500 dollars.

Mr. Gunther earlier proved that the allied forces, in their war against Iraq, used nuclear bullets made of depleted uranium that caused cancer and unknown diseases among Iraqi children who played with the bullets as toys.

According to Professor Gunther, at least 40 tonnes of these radioactive cigar-size bullets have been left in the battlefield. He found a number of these bullets near a highway linking Baghdad to Amman, Jordan. "They were so big that they aroused my suspicion," he said.

He told THE BAGHDAD OBSERVER that the uranium ammunition technology has been developed in Germany, adding that countries of the Near East are heavily armed with the help of German managers.

Professor Gunther said "Germany is now a place where smugglers offer atomic bombs and a place where foreigners are treated so badly," he said.

He added that foreigners in Germany are killed in the streets and some of them are burned alive with their children as Germans threw bombs on their houses.

Professor Gunther took a picture of a wall where a German wrote about foreigners what is translated as: "No Animal Experiment, We Have Enough Foreigners."

He expressed anxiety about the development of the situation in the Middle East, saying that Turkey is using German weapons against the Kurds.

He quoted a report published in the DER SPIEGEL magazine in October, 1992 as saying that German firms are particularly participating in the improvement of missiles and in building up of chemical warfare plants.

Professor Gunther is currently in Baghdad. He brought with him five to six tonnes of medicines and powder milk to the blood bank in Baghdad and to hospitals for children in Mosul and Baghdad. "I had in mind to bring dresses and shoes for Iraqi children but I could not due to the U.N.-imposed embargo," he added.

He gave several lectures in Europe about the situation of Iraqi children and about the effects of radioactive bullets on health and environment. "Some 10,000 Iraqi children are expected to die every month," he said, adding that there is enough uranium in southern Iraq to cause 500,000 potential deaths.

The chemically-toxic and radioactive waste threatens the long-term health of thousands of children and it could also pass into the crops and water supply, he warned.

The toxic effects are caused by the portion which passes into the bloodstream, whether from the gut, the lung, the lymph nodes, or the bones. The main toxic effect is kidney damage. Even though the toxic effects of insoluble uranium will be delayed because of retention in the lungs, they should still appear after a period of years. The kidney which acts as a filter for the blood is not working properly, then wastes will rapidly build up inside the body, causing a kind of poisoning, he said.

Professor Gunther has been recently elected as president of the Yellow Cross Society whose aim is to protect lives and to react against German development of uranium ammunition and against the development of mass-destruction weapons.

Russian Intelligence Official at Nuclear Briefing

No Threat of Leakage of Secrets

OW2810174992 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1527 GMT 28 Oct 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] On Wednesday [28 October] at a briefing in Moscow, Gennadiy Yevstafyev, the chief of the Russian intelligence service department on control of armaments, declared that there is actually no threat to the departure of experts on "nuclear secrets" from Russia. He reported that there were about 100,000 people in Russia who were busy developing the so called "dual technology" (civil and military—INTERFAX). But only about 1,500 people are developing the nuclear weapons and only "several dozens" of experts who live in "closed towns" really know the "nuclear secrets".

Yevstafyev stressed that there were no leakage of "weapons-grade uranium and plutonium" from Russia as well.

Answering to journalists, Tatyana Samolis, the press secretary of the intelligence service director, reported that the intelligence service of Russia "is ready to conclude agreements on cooperation with all intelligence services." These agreements should not be aimed against the third countries, this was the only provision. Samolis did not refute information on preparation of an agreement between the intelligence services of Russia and China but made it clear that there were no grounds to speak about "anti-American orientation" of possible cooperation of these two intelligence services. At the briefing the journalists learned that an agreement on cooperation of the Russian and Ukrainian intelligence services was underway.

The press secretary reported that over the last year and a half seven employees of the Intelligence service "left" for the West. "All of us are in the same country and are experiencing the same problems," she summarized.

Exodus of Scientists Denied

LD2810215592 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1543 GMT
28 Oct 92

[Text] Moscow October 28 TASS—A Russian Security Ministry official denied reports on Wednesday about a mass exodus of Russian nuclear physicists from Russia.

Yevgeniy Yevstafyev, head of the Russian Foreign Intelligence Department for Arms Control, told a briefing in Moscow on Wednesday that about 1,500 to 2,000 scientists are currently engaged in developing nuclear weapons in Russia, while only a few dozen scientists know the whole technology. He said there were no grounds to speak about their defection.

Yevstafyev said defence-related industries employ 100,000 people, 3-5 percent of whom move to another country for permanent residence annually, including to Third World countries which are developing their own nuclear weapons.

Yevstafyev confirmed that former Soviet scientists also work in Libya, but only in centres controlled by the International Atomic Energy Agency.

He described as an exaggeration rumours about illegal exports of plutonium and uranium used in nuclear weapons from Russia. He admitted to thefts of small amounts of radioactive materials from defence plants, but stressed that these amounts are too small to create a nuclear bomb and denounced reports about large exports of radioactive materials as groundless.

Yevstafyev said the Russian Intelligence Service was ready to cooperate with other countries in establishing tight control over proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

Russian Security Agencies Deter Uranium Smuggling

OW2610204492 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1959 GMT 26 Oct 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Russian security agencies and the Belarusian State Security Committee have stopped the illegal activities of a group stealing natural uranium from a secret plant in Udmurtiya (a Russian Federation republic). As the Russian Security Ministry Public Relations center told INTERFAX, 100 kilograms of uranium intended to be smuggled abroad were found during the search. The criminal group consisted of eight Russians, one Belarusian and three Poles.

Russian Security Confiscates Article on CW

MK3010113592 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA
in Russian 30 Oct 92 pp 1, 2

[Article by Lev Fedorov and Vil Mirzayanov under the "Environment" rubric: "We Waged Chemical Warfare on Our Own Territory. Article Confiscated From ARGUMENTY I FAKTY Editorial Office"—first two paragraphs are introduction]

[Text] The text published below was confiscated by Russian Security Ministry staffers from the ARGUMENTY I FAKTY editorial office. The reason for this was the arrest by the aforementioned department of one of its authors—Vil Mirzayanov, who is accused of disclosing a state secret (see NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA nos 205 and 206).

While following our principle of giving a platform to anyone who cannot speak out elsewhere, NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA hopes that nevertheless the information about the damage caused to our own people by the chemical weapons supposed, so the military claimed, to defend them does not constitute a state secret.

The first stage of the long military chemical marathon is over—we were ready for chemical warfare. A question that will not be superfluous is this: Exactly why were we dragged into this adventure? In order to deter the probable enemy, the chief of Chemical Troops reports, failing to spot the clear illogicality—it is hard to intimidate people with weapons whose existence you deny, which is what we did for many years. Sometimes there were elegant attempts to reduce chemical weapons merely to toxins planned for battlefield use somewhere a long way from our borders. We would like to warn people against this simple substitution, especially as the Geneva protocol, which we signed in 1925, does not provide for the use of chemical weapons for offensive purposes. Our goals were related to our revolutionary shamelessness. Back in 1921 our deeply revered

military leader M. Tukhachevskiy used chemical weapons to kill insurgent Tambov peasants. The last case was the use of chemical weapons in the spring of 1989 in Tbilisi—the CS riot-control gas.

One general wrote recently: "At various times chemical weapons were produced in Russia in Berezniki, Chapayevsk, Dzerzhinsk in Gorkiy Oblast, Novocheboksarsk, and Volgograd." The revelation is belated and less than complete. It makes no mention of herbicide weapons from Ufa, psychotropic substances from Volsk, or riot-control gas from Slavgorod. The capital was also left out of the list of producers. For your information: Before and after the war a plant producing the vesicant toxins mustard gas and lewisite operated on the territory of the State Union Research Institute of Organic Chemistry and Technology. They were poured from teapots and tested on people—prisoners. During the October panic of 1941 the existing stock of toxins—tonnes of them—was buried on the spot and forgotten.

During the history of the military-industrial complex each branch has had its troubles: Rocket scientists had the deaths of cosmonauts and marshals, nuclear scientists had the explosions at Chelyabinsk's "Mayak" plant and in Chernobyl, shipbuilders had the loss of the Komsomolets. What about the military chemical complex? The official story is that "not even the slightest accident or emergency took place" at chemical weapons production plants in Russia. We will confine ourselves to doubts specifically regarding the production of highly poisonous phosphorus-based neuro-paralytic toxins—sarin, soman, and VX. The technologies were developed in Moscow at the State Union Research Institute of Organic Chemistry and Technology and additional work was done in the institute's subsidiaries, the toxins themselves were tested mostly at Shikhany (Saratov Oblast) and were produced at the "Khimproms"—the giant plants in Volgograd (sarin and soman) and Novocheboksarsk (VX). Soman was produced prior to and for at least two years after 1987, when M. Gorbachev announced a halt to toxin production. Sometimes the decontamination measures to remove phosphorus-based toxins from the waste from Shop No 34 of Volgograd's "Khimprom" plant were not effective: The content of sarin and soman in effluent from the production unit was hundreds of times the maximum permissible concentration. This effluent was disguised among general effluent and discharged into the so-called "white sea" adjoining residential areas of Volgograd. During the spring flood of 1964 the "sea" burst its banks and reached the Volga itself. Residents recall the consequences with a shudder: The entire surface of the Volga as far as Astrakhan was white with dead fish. The problems of cause and effect were easily solved—the chief engineer was stripped of the Lenin Prize he had received for starting up production of the phosphorus-based toxins. This was not the only event, but to this day residents do not know the real causes.

Novocheboksarsk's "Khimprom" plant firmly led the USSR in the production of chemical output. The fire that took place in 1974 in its Shop No 83 was a large-scale environmental crime whose consequences were covered up and have still not been eliminated. This secret shop produced the most powerful phosphorus-based toxin—VX gas.

So much for the absence of accidents at the flagship enterprises of the secret chemical industry.

According to official figures, Russia has 30,000 tonnes of phosphorus-based toxins. The remaining 10,000 tonnes (out of the declared 40,000 tonnes), including 7,000 tonnes of lewisite, according to General Petrov, constituted "our stocks of chemical weapons accumulated in the prewar years and during the war," although the production of lewisite and mustard gas in Dzerzhinsk was scarcely possible before the end of the war and the appearance of spoils of war. The absence of mustard gas is astonishing: There is a small quantity of mustard gas-lewisite mixture, but there is no place for mustard gas itself in the declared tonnage. It remains unclear what the workers of the Chapayevsk chemical fertilizers plant were doing from 1941, when they began to receive chlorine (without which it is impossible to produce mustard gas), until the end of the 40's. Most of the workers have died, but the survivors remember hellish labor that culminated in the production of 10,000-15,000 tonnes of mustard gas and was rewarded with 62 Orders of Lenin. The "Kapolaktam" plant in Dzerzhinsk also produced mustard gas for many years—with great productivity, otherwise there would have been no point in shipping the plant as spoils of war from Germany.

So although Russia was no laggard in terms of mustard gas production, when the cards were laid on the table there was no sign of it. Where has it mysteriously vanished to? Residents of rayons adjoining Chapayevsk recall how mustard gas was buried in the ground. They also remember mustard gas being dumped in the White Sea and the Pacific Ocean, and what people were unable to find out, starfish recalled a couple of years ago. Chemical munitions that had "sprung a leak" were destroyed without any precautions at a small station not far from Nizhniy Novgorod. There was also another dirty episode. In an attempt to make use of [utilizatsiya] lewisite and mustard gas in the mid-80's, it was simply burned in Udmurtia. It was the usual story—the population simply knew nothing about this.

Before the start of serious talks about chemical disarmament our military, according to their own figures, destroyed 438 tonnes of toxins. That is untrue—several tens of thousands of tonnes were destroyed. You need only compare the figure for total stocks circulating in the military-chemical underground before the start of the disarmament process (between 50,000 and 70,000 tonnes) with the figure that has been officially announced. The difference is no joke.

In April 1991 Mikhail Sergeyevich crowned a "group of comrades" with the laurels of secret Lenin Prize winners for developing our own, at the time Soviet, binary weapons and organizing the industrial production of them (at "Khimprom" in Volgograd). This was not the first lie (after 1987 he promised not to produce anything, still less an experimental industrial batch of a new toxin, without which no prizes are awarded) and not the last. The new toxin does not feature on any of the lists recently agreed at the Geneva talks on chemical disarmament, however, nor have methods of detecting it been agreed.

You would think that "conventional" concerns regarding chemical disarmament ought to find some place for the people who lived and still do live near plants for the production of toxins, storage bases, and the sites where they

will be destroyed in the future. But the reality is rather grimmer. Residents of Dzerzhinsk knew nothing of their toxins, but all of a sudden they have been notified that the dismantling of units for the production of lewisite and mustard gas is beginning at the "Kaprolaktam" plant (residents of Chapayevsk were not told even this). It is clear why the dismantling has started only now—the units were being held in reserve, like an armored train. There is another side to this matter, however: The lewisite is long gone—it is at storage bases in Kambarka (Udmurtia) and Gornyy (Saratov Oblast). But it remains unclear just where there have been discharges of organic arsenic substances, which is what lewisite is. City Nature Conservation Chief A. Pilyugin says not a word about them, although there was pollution of the atmosphere and, to a still greater extent, discharges of effluent (in Dzerzhinsk effluent is not only discharged into the Oka, but also pumped underground). The soil at and around the plant must be contaminated with arsenic compounds—they are immortal, they live their life, some persist and others change from one form into another, but each new form is toxic. It now transpires that for decades the residents of Dzerzhinsk (and with them those of Chapayevsk and Moscow) knew nothing of their misfortune. We are embarking on the path of chemical disarmament, but no one is proposing that we take a retrospective look at the real pollution of the cities that were involuntary participants in the criminal venture—Volgograd, Novocheboksarsk, Chapayevsk, Ufa, Dzerzhinsk, Berezniki, Volsk, and Moscow. The Americans do not care about the consequences of the many years of activity by the generals of the military-chemical complex in our country, and the generals do not even think of settling accounts with the past. So it is pointless to raise the question of the environment-friendliness of the military-chemical complex' activity until we learn the full truth about polluted Russian soil, mostly in the Volga basin.

Recently we were brought from across the ocean an American promise to allocate dollars to "evaluate the potential for switching one of the chemical plants formerly engaged in producing toxins over to their destruction." Apparently expenditure will decrease, reliability will increase, and so forth. Let us make a parenthetical note. The reference is to Novocheboksarsk, which sprang up around the giant "Khimprom" plant and forms essentially a single whole with the capital of Chuvashia. There is no chance of simply getting away with this.

The question of storage is not simple either. Of course, unlike mustard gas and lewisite, it would be safer to store phosphorus-based toxins in munitions, but that is just from the technical viewpoint. What can we do with the awful memories of the destruction of military storage facilities in Armenia and the Far East? We need only extrapolate them to our powerful storage bases for toxins, of which we have at least seven and about which we know nothing.

The hardest question is the fate of the lewisite. The Americans withdrew lewisite from service before the end of World War II, and the Germans never produced it at all. But in the mid-80's we had to consider what to do with this stuff. Here is what General I. Yevstafyev says about lewisite: "We always fought with the 'beloved' Ministry of the Chemical and Petrochemical Industry to ensure that raw materials were not thoughtlessly destroyed. This is simply terrible

from the environmental viewpoint. Each tonne of lewisite produces nine tonnes of waste that have to be buried." The general is being less than straight: Until 1988 there was no alternative, and after fusion [splavleniye] it was proposed to bury all the lewisite in the heart of Russia, within the watershed of rivers flowing south and to the northern seas. Some of the few people who opposed this and got into trouble with the military-industrial complex and KGB were in uniform, others were not.

It now transpires that Udmurtia is a major "deposit" of arsenic and the destruction of lewisite will be self-financing and will not require money from the state budget. This is wonderful, but untrue: At present there are no environmentally safe techniques for destroying lewisite, and there is no prospect either of cost recovery. The lewisite arsenic is a dead end. When we see on TV an interview with the leaders of Udmurtia and Saratov Oblast against the backdrop of American equipment for the destruction of toxins, it is useful to remember that the equipment was not designed to deal with lewisite.

The conclusion is obvious. For a start we must see for ourselves that there are no phosphorus-based toxins from the past in the environment of Novocheboksarsk and Volgograd, nor forgotten quantities of mustard gas, lewisite, and their breakdown products in Chapayevsk, Dzerzhinsk, and Moscow. Then all this should be eliminated. Only then will it be time for chemical disarmament programs.

Russian Spokesman Notes New Arms Control Policy

LD2810125192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1213 GMT 28 Oct 92

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Boris Krivoshey]

[Text] Moscow October 28 TASS—Russia as a nuclear state is responsible for its own security and the security of other countries. The emergence of new states possessing weapons of mass destruction, particularly along the perimeter of Russian borders does not meet Russia's interests, Gennadiy Yefstafyev, chief of a newly established department, that for arms control and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, of the Russian Federation's external intelligence service, told a briefing here today.

Regional problems and conflicts have moved to the fore in view of the end of confrontation between the leading powers. This may provoke the use of weapons of mass destruction. Therefore Russia has developed a new approach to the arms control problem. The approach is oriented first of all towards Russia's interests, towards the Russian side's faithful and complete fulfilment of its international obligations and the prevention of the proliferation of mass destruction weapons to third countries, Yefstafyev said.

Such an approach opens up a large sphere of the concurrence of interests of a whole number of states. Therefore "certain possibilities for cooperation with the aim of building a safer world may be found in the sphere of intelligence activities. By preventing the proliferation of mass destruction weapons to third countries, we furnish a stimulus for nuclear states to proceed along the road of

nuclear disarmament," the Russian external intelligence service spokesman emphasised.

Russia Sets Up Center To Monitor CW Elimination

LD2710031292 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 1446 GMT 26 Oct 92

[By ITAR-TASS parliamentary correspondent Aleksey Tabachnikov]

[Text] Moscow, 26 Oct—The problem of the elimination of chemical weapons was discussed today at the Russian parliament presidium's meeting. A draft on the "Complex Program of the Stage By Stage Elimination of Chemical Weapons in the Russian Federation" which was presented to the presidium members, includes a clear cut regulation procedure for this and defines the network of the sites that will be used for eliminating chemical ammunition. The sites will be allocated in the towns of Novocheboksarsk (in Chuvashiya), Kambarka (Udmurtia), Volsk-17, and in the settlement of Gornyy (in Saratov oblast).

There are plans to set up a national center for monitoring the elimination and nonproliferation of chemical weapons in Moscow. Specialists in various fields are expected to make contributions to the work of the committee.

Russia Drafts Program To Destroy Chemical Weapons

OW3010203192 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1934 GMT 30 Oct 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] A draft of the first phase of a complex program of gradually destroying chemical weapons in Russia was examined Friday at a joint session of the Russian Supreme Soviet Committees on Industry and Energy and on Ecology and the Rational Use of Natural Resources. The draft highlights the basic aspects of preparations for fulfilling Russia's international responsibilities in the area of Chemical disarmament in accordance with the International Convention on Banning Chemical Weapons and the Russian-American agreement on chemical weapons signed June 1, 1990.

Head of the Committee for Conventional Problems of Chemical and Biological Weapons under the Russian president Academician Anatoliy Kuntsevich reports that the first level of the program will cost 45 bn [billion] rubles in 1993 prices. From that number, 4.4 bn rubles will be spent next year. Also \$4.5 mn [million] will be needed to purchase equipment abroad - furnaces for the thermal treatment of chemical weapons and units for recultivating the soil.

In an interview with IF [INTERFAX] Kuntsevich reported that the program should be approved by the Russian parliament at the current session and signed by the Russian International Convention in January 1993. He said the program requires the consent of all Russian Federation regions where manufacturing facilities for destroying chemical weapons will be located or are already located, and also from territories through which chemical weapons will be transported to the destroying facilities.

Russian FIS Denies Claims of Nuclear Brain Drain

MK2910101192 Moscow KOMMERSANT-DAILY
in Russian 29 Oct 92 p 8

[Report by Aleksandr Stukalin: "Foreign Intelligence Service Briefing. Intelligence Service Is Keeping an Eye on Nuclear Weapons"]

[Text] Gennadiy Yevstafyev, chief of the Russian Foreign Intelligence Service Directorate for Arms Control and the Nonproliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction, held a briefing 28 October.

According to Yevstafyev, the directorate, which was set up in summer of this year, is resolving its tasks by "monitoring" world processes in the armaments sphere and analyzing them from the viewpoint of consonance with Russia's interests. "With the sanction of the Russian leadership" the directorate also "carries out appropriate measures in the event of the emergence of a threat to the security of the Russian state."

Familiarizing the press with the history of the arms control problem, Gennadiy Yevstafyev admitted that the former USSR "did not always comply with agreements on the nonproliferation of weapons of mass destruction and was overly lax in interpreting some of their provisions in favor of its own allies." According to him, at present Russia complies strictly with the relevant treaties, however, and objectively has no interest in the emergence of more nuclear states, especially "on the perimeter of its borders."

Concerning the question of the leakage of nuclear secrets from the country, Yevstafyev explained that on the territory of the former Union there are "just 1,500-2,000 specialists dealing with nuclear weapons, and only a few dozen of them know how those weapons are made." "So far none of them has 'leaked' anywhere," he declared, noting that, despite serious economic difficulties, these people remain "patriotic, reliable, and responsible." According to him the scare campaign over "drain of nuclear specialists from Russia" is being mounted in order to "prompt us to cut back scientific links with other countries." Yevstafyev disclosed that specialists from the former Union are working on contract in Third World states, including Libya, but "there is nothing special" in this. He gave assurances that the USSR is not implicated in the leakage of nuclear technologies to Iraq and that the Iraqi nuclear programs were 90 percent based on technologies obtained in Western Europe.

"Invalid" was how Yevstafyev termed Dzhokhar Dudayev's statements about the possibility of the use of nuclear weapons by Chechnya in armed conflicts. He stated that the Chechen leader has no possibility of using nuclear weapons. At the same time Yevstafyev pointed to the increased frequency lately of threats by various extremists to commit terrorist acts against nuclear facilities. According to him, this problem is today very serious not only in Russia but also in other countries of the world.

Russian Visitors to Iran on Nuclear, Uranium Ties

*MK2710084392 Moscow KOMMERSANT-DAILY
in Russian 27 Oct 92 p 4*

[Unattributed report: "Russian Nuclear Delegation's Visit to Iran. Russian Uranium Technology for Iranian Gold"]

[Text] By prior arrangement, a Russian Atomic Energy Ministry delegation visited Iran 15-24 October. Possibilities for participation by the Russian side in plans to extract gold, uranium, and rare earth metals in Iran, and also prospects for constructing a nuclear power reactor using Russian technology were discussed.

The delegation included Vyacheslav Krotkov, president of the "Atomredmetzoloto" concern, academician Boris Laskorin, deputy director of the Chemical Technology Research Institute, and Sergey Kulikov, chief of the "Zarubezhatomenergostroy" packaged deliveries department.

"Zarubezhatomenergostroy" is an organization that was formerly part of the Ministry of Medium Machine Building system but is now an independent state foreign trade association. "Atomredmetzoloto" is the former Ministry of Medium Machine Building "raw materials main administration," which was reorganized as a concern in February 1992. While this used to be purely an extractive component, its functions now also include the export of raw materials and technology.

According to KOMMERSANT's information from unofficial sources, plans for the use in Iran of Russian technologies making it possible to increase the extent of recovery of precious and rare-earth metals from ores and organizational aspects of these plans, including the possible creation of joint ventures, were discussed during the visit.

The Iranian side showed interest in the technology known to specialists as "Resin-in-Pulp." This technology was developed at the Chemical Technology Institute under the leadership of academician Boris Laskorin. It was originally intended for the recovery of uranium from low-grade ores and was later modified for other heavy metals and gold. Back in August 1992 the Iranian side gave Russia samples of gold ore which were analyzed at the Chemical Technology Institute's laboratories from the viewpoint of the use of this technology.

Moreover, the timetable for deliveries of equipment under the intergovernmental agreement concluded with Iran in August 1992 on constructing a power station using a Russian VVER [water-cooled, water-moderated] reactor and the mechanism for supplying this project with nuclear fuel were also examined. The possibility of participation by Russian partners in work to prospect for uranium deposits in Iran was discussed in this connection.

Officials at the Russian Ministry of Atomic Energy deemed it inappropriate to provide detailed information about the results of the visit at the present time.

Russian New Anti-Missile Systems Found Effective

*LD2510233592 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino
Television First Program Network in Russian 1900 GMT
25 Oct 92*

[From the "Itogi" program]

[Text] Fortunately there still remain spheres in the Russian armed forces that have not been taken up with politics, and it turns out that it is precisely in such cases that the people of Russia can take pride in the talent, skill, and training of military specialists.

[Begin unidentified correspondent recording] The steppes of Kazakhstan are virtually lifeless in autumn. The test site at Emba. By agreement between Russia and Kazakhstan it is used by the forces of both countries. It is here that integrated exercises were conducted, in the so-called theater of military operations, using all the mobile anti-missile defense systems of the latest generation, and moreover, for the first time.

As I do not have much time, I will just tell you about one out of all the systems used at the exercises—the (?S-300-V). For example, it can simultaneously hit both aircraft and missiles. Its minimum effective altitude is 25 meters, and the maximum—30 km. The speed of the target can be up to 3,000 meters per second, and its distance—100 km. The number of targets that can be fired on simultaneously is 24. Deployment time is approximately the same as the length of my report—up to five minutes. Another modification, surpassing the (?S-300-V) in many parameters, has already been created at the (?MPO-Antey). Such 300's were interacting in the sky with other systems, in many respects not inferior to them or even surpassing them in some respects, the (?Bug) and (?Tor), also in various modifications. Moreover, all of them were serially produced. Cruise missiles and high-precision missiles of the type Scud, Smerch, and Strella tried to penetrate the area protected by the defense combat systems. Overall, it was a pretty big game. In all, 34 targets were launched during the exercise. Three of them self-destructed, and 31 targets were hit. A 100 percent defensive umbrella was created, a result that had not even been planned by the scientists, industrialists, and military. In all 64 missiles were used for strike.

So you can understand these figures, I will cite these examples. During the Gulf war, a number of none too modern Scuds penetrated the air defenses of the countries fighting Iraq. One Scud was shot down in Israel by six to eight missiles; in Saudi Arabia, by three or four. But our (?Bug-S-300) and (?Tor) destroyed targets with effectively one missile, thereby operating at least three or four times more effectively than their American analogues, the Hawk, Patriot, and Roland. Again, about those who were operating the anti-missile systems. These gifts, traditionally binoculars and watches for the officers, and leave for the troops, were fully deserved by the Russian soldiers. [video shows rocket systems at test site, exercise under way]

Behind closed doors the preliminary results of the exercise were reviewed.

[Addressing Anatoliy Sitnev, chief of the main rocket-artillery directorate of the Russian Defense Ministry] Rumors have reached us from behind the closed doors

where the exercise was analysed that there were, nevertheless, slight conflicts with the producers. Primarily, what did they concern, these conflicts?

[Sitnev] Well, they were the traditional conflicts—a weak component base, which we have to develop together, and weak communications systems.

[Correspondent] Was there not this kind of thing, Belorussia did not supply something, or Ukraine under-supplied something, or Armenia forgot us completely?

[Sitnev] No, there was not anything like that, because 90 percent of the equipment made in the interests of ground troops, for the main rocket-artillery directorate, is made in Russia.

[Correspondent, addressing Andrey Kokoshin, Russian first deputy defense minister, in aircraft] Today, and not just today but yesterday, too, the officers were saying in the corridors that specially for the arrival of the commanders-in-chief and first deputy defense minister, large numbers of people were brought in.

[Kokoshin] You know, there were indeed a lot of crews assembled specially for this exercise, that is clear, but that is not just so as not to mess things up, and to show the best there is, but also because of the situation that currently exists in the forces, their under-manning, this is a universal misfortune with us, immense difficulties with the call-up, great problems, of course, with retaining high-class specialists in the armed forces. I am hardly exaggerating, those officers and soldiers and NCO's who took part in these exercises, their spirits were really uplifted, people could see that they are needed, that military work, serious work, is under way, they could see that industry is loaded. An energetic effect, you know, has taken place in the work of the army and industry. [end recording]

Uranium From Udmurtia Plant Smuggled to Poland

WS2710164892 Minsk BELINFORM in Russian
2221 GMT 24 Oct 92

[Text] The western countries' anxiety about the leak of nuclear substances from the territory of the former USSR is well grounded. After a successful operation, KGB officers from Brest arrested two Russian citizens involved in the illegal acquisition and preservation of lethal materials. Their partners, a Polish citizen and a Brest resident, were also arrested. 2.35 kilograms of uranium were found. A criminal action was instituted.

The officers discovered uranium-238, which exceeds the permissible levels of radiation by a factor of 53. It had been transported without any protection, and had been stored for a lengthy period in an apartment. The motivation behind the crime was profit, because one kilogram of this kind of uranium costs about \$200,000. "Our merchants" made a deal at \$50,000 per kilogram.

The investigation revealed that in August, 1992, more than two kilograms of uranium were transported to Poland through Brest. A portion of the smuggled uranium was discovered within 24 hours, with the help of Polish officers, in the apartment of a Terespol resident. Currently, the police are looking for the rest of the uranium. The Russian Security Service revealed a group of people who were

involved in illegal stealing and storage of uranium. They work in one of the Udmurtia plants. According to the Brest KGB, their Russian colleagues have arrested seven people charged with illegal stealing and storage of uranium. About 100 kilograms of uranium were discovered. The investigation is under way.

Belarus Schedule for N-Missile Withdrawal Approved

OW2610200292 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1931 GMT 26 Oct 92

[From the "Presidential Bulletin" feature prepared by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovskiy, and Vladimir Shishlin and edited by Boris Grishchenko—transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] By instruction of Belarusian Supreme Council Chairman Stanislav Shushkevich, a schedule for the withdrawal of nuclear missiles from Belarus to Russia has been drawn up and approved.

IF [INTERFAX] Note: According to the Lisbon protocol of the Vienna agreement, which was signed by Belarus, the republic must become a non-nuclear state within seven years.

For two years, the withdrawal of military equipment and 81 intercontinental ballistic missiles has been taking shape. Eight missile brigades will leave Belarus in 1993, and the same number in 1994. It is expected that by 30 December 1994, Belarus will be non-nuclear. In June 1995, the last sub-unit of the command and military support of the strategic nuclear missiles will be sent to Russia.

According to INTERFAX's information, the Russian leadership is in agreement with the schedule for the withdrawal of strategic nuclear missiles.

Georgia Says Abkhazia Possesses Nuclear Charges

MK2810113992 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA
in Russian 28 Oct 92 p 3

[Unattributed report under the "NEGA Reports" rubric]

[Text] According to a report from competent sources who have received information from the Abkhazian side, the latter possesses two nuclear charges. They belong to the category of calculated-yield charges and are used in the national economy subject to strict accounting.

In the past 115 of these devices were detonated in the USSR.

There is no information about the TNT equivalent of the charges at the disposal of the Abkhazian side.

Reports Rejected as 'False'

OW2910161492 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1501 GMT 29 Oct 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The press center of the Transcaucasian Military District has rejected as false the media reports to the effect that two nuclear bombs are stationed on Abkhazian territory.

Press center head Gennadiy Dolgachev told INTERFAX there are no nuclear weapons or delivery systems anywhere in Transcaucasia.

Ukraine's Nuclear Stance Evokes Concern

MK2810142992 Moscow MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI
in Russian No. 44, 1 Nov 92 (Signed to Press 27 Oct 92)
pp 14-15

[Report by Vladimir Orlov under the "Atom" rubric: "Ukraine: A 'Quasi-Nuclear' Superpower?"]

[Text] Kiev-Moscow—In the near future Ukraine will accede to the Treaty on the Nonproliferation of Nuclear Weapons and place all its nuclear reactors under the control of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA].

This at least is the official information from Kiev. If so, a turning point will be reached in Ukraine's relations with the international community, which is worried by Kiev's nuclear ambitions.

But until final steps have been taken, there is reason to doubt the Ukrainian leadership's resolve with regard to achieving its declared aims: neutrality and a nuclear-free status.

Concern over this sphere of "independent" Ukraine's foreign and defense policy was voiced at an international conference on the nonproliferation of weapons of mass destruction. This meeting of scientists, diplomats, and parliamentarians was organized by the Moscow and Monterey (California) Institutes of International Relations. The venue—Kiev—was not selected by chance.

"Among themselves" the conference participants (among whom the only press representative was your MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI correspondent) were sharply critical of their hosts. The reason for this was a speech by Ukrainian Deputy Foreign Minister Mr. Tsvetkov. It was possible to draw from his woolly phrasing the conclusion that his republic is in no hurry to accede to the nonproliferation treaty "unless it is granted broad security guarantees."

The nonproliferation treaty is the basic international legal document on the basis of which the "nuclear honesty" of a particular country can be examined. Besides the five nuclear powers, on which special obligations are placed, there are dozens of countries where—at various levels—research and development is going on with a view to using nuclear energy for both peaceful and military purposes. These countries include India, both Koreas, Iran, Taiwan, South Africa, and Argentina. In order to monitor this process and prevent the spread of nuclear weapons, the treaty's signatory countries open their doors to IAEA inspectors.

If this does not happen, history shows that the consequences can be extremely dangerous for peace and international stability. Thus in 1974 India conducted nuclear tests during a confrontation with Pakistan. For a long time Iraq was engaged in nuclear research for military purposes and had gone a long way toward developing a nuclear bomb. Similar dangers exist in the case of at least a dozen developing countries.

But the policy of controlling the proliferation of nuclear weapons has recently brought appreciable results. South

Africa has acceded to the treaty. North Korea has agreed to a visit by the IAEA's general director.

As far as Ukraine is concerned, it has found itself in a strange position following the collapse of the Union. On the one hand, it has the third largest nuclear arsenal in the world on its territory. On the other hand, it does not own this arsenal, so to speak. The term "quasi-nuclear power" has even arisen, but, of course, it does not reflect the essence of the problem. Nuclear weapons exist on Ukrainian territory. The country signed the Lisbon Protocol, thereby taking upon itself some of the obligations of the Soviet-U.S. START Treaty together with Russia and Belarus.

Independent observers assessed official Kiev's behavior during the conference as contradictory and unpredictable, however. One of the most prestigious experts—Professor William Potter from Monterey—conjectured that Ukraine "is basically avoiding international monitoring [kontrol]." According to him, Ukraine attaches too little significance to this problem.

At the same time, it retains the potential to produce heavy water at the Dneprodzerzhinsk combine and is even prepared to establish a closed nuclear fuel cycle, i.e. to enrich uranium using its own resources. Nor has the problem of safety been resolved with regard to either the civil or the military nuclear reactors on its territory.

The conference saw the disclosure of a report that all Ukraine's storage facilities are full to the brim with spent nuclear fuel, and now Ukraine plans to bury this fuel near Krasnoyarsk. At the same time, Ukraine cannot fail to be aware that times have changed and, under Russian laws, the import of spent nuclear fuel from outside Russia's borders is forbidden.

In his speech Russian Foreign Ministry representative Viktor Mizin reacted in an extremely restrained manner to Ukraine's intentions and the steps it has already taken. He agreed that it is not for the CIS, Russia, or the IAEA to resolve the issue of Ukraine's nuclear status; this should be done by Ukraine and its parliament alone. But if Ukraine declares itself a nuclear power, Mr. Mizin added, it will have to leave the CIS—the Commonwealth's documents do not make provision for such a turn of events.

Unlike the diplomat, Dmitriy Yevstafyev, a scientist from the U.S. and Canada Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences, could allow himself to be more frank: "While putting forward a propagandist slogan of neutrality, Ukraine is in fact striving to preserve its nuclear arsenals."

It is interesting that this desire is particularly striking against the background of the noticeable softening of Kazakhstan's position over the last six months. During his meeting with George Bush President Nazarbayev promised that Kazakhstan is choosing nuclear-free status and will sign the nonproliferation treaty in the near future. Nazarbayev was untroubled by protests from the Kazakh opposition, which regarded this step as a concession to the "great powers" and even picketed the U.S. Embassy in Alma-Ata.

It seems the Ukrainian position can partially be explained by the general political instability within the republic. According to information that percolated to the conference corridors, the Ukrainian leadership is not united on the issue of the country's nuclear future: The Defense and

Foreign Ministries, and also the president's apparatus, have certainly not coordinated their steps. Many people here believe that ownership of nuclear weapons is a good "vaccine" against disintegration for a country that will find itself on the verge of falling apart one day soon.

According to Yevgeniy Sharov from the Ukrainian Institute of World Economics and International Relations, "the position of the 'hawks' in the local defense industry and the leadership as a whole is strengthening." There is talk of developing a nonnuclear high-accuracy ballistic missile, and space projects are being looked at.

Defense policy is being built on a double standard. For the future—neutrality and nuclear-free status. But for today—preservation of the status quo in view of "the unpredictability of our neighbors' behavior." It is an open secret that though they use the plural they mean Russia.

Ukraine Declares Inability To Produce N-Arms

*OW2810174092 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1523 GMT 28 Oct 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Konstantin Morozov, the Ukrainian Defense Minister, declared that the republic has no technical means and industrial capabilities to produce nuclear weapons. Besides, the nuclear status of Ukraine caused changes in a number of laws and the declaration on state sovereignty in which the republic declared its wish to become a non-nuclear neutral state. On Wednesday [28 October] Morozov addressed the Ukrainian parliament voicing the concept of military doctrine.

The minister underlined: "Earlier Ukraine declared about its intention to abolish the strategic nuclear weapons by the end of 1994 and to receive financial and technical assistance of interested countries for this purpose. Until now the republic has not received help. We have made corrections in our course of actions and joined the START agreement which foresees liquidation of the strategic nuclear weapons within seven years following its ratification." Kiev has not yet ratified the treaty which was signed by the USSR and USA in summer 1991.

Morozov underlined that reduction of strategic armaments would be accomplished only with the consideration of ecological, financial, and social problems.

According to the Ukrainian military doctrine, Ukraine considers that any country which has territorial claims towards it, intrudes into its inner affairs, participates in unions aimed against the political, economic, and military interests of Ukraine is its potential adversary.

The military doctrine mentions territorial claims, economic, inter-ethnic, and religious contradictions between neighboring states as the main sources of military threat. The task of the Ukrainian armed forces during war is to defeat the aggressor and to deprive him of any possibility to wage a war. The doctrine foresees conducting of not only defensive but offensive operations as well for this purpose.

The Defense Minister stressed that Ukraine would consider deployment of forces on its border without warning as preparation for war. In this case the republic retains the

right to undertake adequate measures including partial mobilization and deployment of forces in the direction of obvious threat.

Morozov declared that Ukraine can have armed forces corresponding to the level of developed European countries. He stands for a professional Ukrainian army, formation of which needs appropriate material expenditures. He also added that a detachment of rocket-space forces would be included in the composition of the Ukrainian armed forces.

Speaking on the problem of the Black Sea Fleet, the minister declared that it would be necessary to divide the fleet and not to have alien fleets on the republic's territory before the end of the interim period envisaged by the agreements between the Ukrainian and Russian Presidents.

Following the discussion, the Ukrainian parliament returned the draft of the military doctrine for further development. Several deputies criticized the national-democrats for a provision on non-nuclear status of the republic contained in the draft.

Ukraine Thwarts Smuggling of Strontium-90

*LD3010214592 Warsaw PAP in English 2053 GMT
30 Oct 92*

[Text] Kiev, Oct. 30—The Ukrainian police thwarted an attempt to smuggle nine containers of radioactive Strontium 90 into Poland, reported the Ukrainian Ministry of Internal Affairs on Friday.

The containers, which had been stolen from a former Russian military base, were confiscated by the police on October 19 in the Rowne district, near the Polish border. Four soldiers have been arrested in connection with the theft.

According to the "UKRAIYNA MOLODA" daily paper, the Strontium had already been sold to Polish clients for 500 U.S. dollars per container. Ukrainian authorities have not confirmed this information, however.

Strontium 90 is a by-product in nuclear reactions and has many various military applications. The illegal transport of such fissionable materials from the former Soviet Union is a matter of concern to Western European countries. This October, Germany has requested Russia to tighten their control over their nuclear materials.

Estonia Issues Proposal on Russian Base Reactors

*OW2810122492 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1205 GMT
28 Oct 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Estonian Foreign Ministry put forward a proposal to form an international operative group to control radiation safety at training nuclear reactors stationed on the territory of the Russian naval base in the Estonian town of Paldiski. This group should also work out a schedule for dismantlement of the reactors and export of the nuclear wastes.

The press service of the Estonian Foreign Ministry reported that the Ministry's General secretary Alar Olljum [name as received] voiced this proposal on Monday in Helsinki at the meeting of the working group on nuclear and radiation

safety formed under the Council of the Baltic region states. Olljum emphasized that Russia had not presented any information to Estonia as to the safety of these reactors.

Urges International Review

OW2710212392 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1857 GMT 27 Oct 92

[From the INTERFAX "Express-Release"—transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Estonian Ministry of Foreign Affairs has recommended that an international group be invited to control radiation security at the Russian Navy's scientific nuclear reactors in Paldiski. Foreign Ministry General Secretary Alar Olljum, appearing in Helsinki, announced the recommendation and said that Russia had provided no data of any sort on the security of the reactors.

Participants in a seminar on stability in the Baltics recently held in Tallinn asked the Russian authorities to allow them to visit Paldiski, where there is a Russian naval base, but received a refusal which said that a visit was undesirable because of the withdrawal of Russian forces currently being undertaken.

Virus Collection Stolen From Sukhumi Lab

93P60033A Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA
in Russian 23 October 92 p 4

[Article by EL MUNDO (Spain) correspondent D. Polikarpov, special to KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA, Sukhumi: "What Monkey Can Stand up to a Guardsman With A Machine Gun?"]

[Text]

Famous Sukhumi Nursery Robbed. Plague and Cholera Viruses [sic] Stolen.

A guardsman with a "Kalashnikov" in his hands, stood leaning against a tree and looked toward the mountains where the front lies. On his shoulder sat a small, thin monkey. The little beast's eyes were frightened and sad. On the way back to town, our "chauffeur"—a well-known Sukhumi doctor, said, without turning his head, "A little monkey from the nursery. Previously the guardsmen had a lot of them, but they all died: there was nothing to feed them."

Sukhumi residents always had reason to be proud of their city. But it contained two objects of note which no self-respecting tourist could fail to acquaint himself with: the botanical garden and the monkey nursery.

Scientists of many countries knew of the later's existence—it was there that the first monkeys to fly in space were trained. But what was of interest to science was not so much the planet's largest colony of what, according to some information, are our closest relatives, as the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences Institute of Experimental Pathology and Therapy, which operated on the base of the nursery and which was without analogue.

The institute, which had a very rich collection of viruses, studied the characteristics of their effect on the living

organism. More specifically, on monkeys. In some laboratories, as the result of numerous experiments and observations the rarest medicinal preparations were created and approved. There existed a department which studied oncological diseases and conducted a search—claimed to be successful—for a vaccine against AIDS. Several of the institute's employees claim that people from the Russian Military Biological Laboratory worked in the vicinity, in a civilian building. Apparently it [the Russian Military Biological Laboratory] was successfully evacuated.

Today in Sukhumi time is divided into "before the war" and "after." Before the war they wanted to build the world's first monument to the monkey here. Before the war they were planning to cut the staff. Now there is no one to dismiss: the Sukhumi monkey nursery no longer exists. Neither the people nor the monkeys.

"The guardsmen came here in the first days of the war," recounts the institute's translator, who asked not to be named. "They lugged off everything that could be carried. When nothing was left, they began to take the monkeys with them. People tried to explain to them that many animals were infected and as a result would die in their possession. Then the guardsmen began to shoot the monkeys right in the cages.."

Most of the institute's employees were successfully evacuated. Their director, academician Boris Lapin, didn't suffer either. As early as 1989, when the first signs of the coming conflict appeared, he began to create a branch in Russia. The First Institute of Medical Primatology in Adler [city located on the Black Sea, south of Sochi, in Krasnodar Kray, Russia] now continues part of the experiments begun in the Sukhumi Center. But, as Lapin himself thinks, to make up for what was stolen from the nursery would take at least several years.

The marauders carried off all the latest electronics and tore up the documentation. Of the institute building, only the walls remain. Of the three thousand monkeys that lived in the nursery, now fewer than half are left. Even during the shootings some employees who had remained in the city went to the institute and tried to save the lives of their charges. But soon it became hard to find a crust of bread even for a human in Sukhumi.

The monkeys proved to be less hardy than the people. They did not know what hunger was and quietly died in their cages. Their former "comrades" were carried off by Georgian soldiers as trophies. They say that on the Tblisi market the asking price for one monkey from the nursery was 25,000 rubles.

But the worst was yet to come. On one of the nights after the armed men's next visit, the collection of viruses disappeared from the laboratory. According to the specialists' estimate, if some of them were to get into the city's water system, they could cause an epidemic of such diseases as plague or cholera. Of greatest concern, of course, is the work of the military laboratory. It is possible that not everything was evacuated, and since no one knows what the military doctors were studying, it is impossible to evaluate the degree of risk. Only one thing is clear: it is possible that someone, without suspecting it himself, holds in his hands the lives of many thousands of people.

FRANCE

Joint Nuclear Deterrence With Britain Explored

PM2310111092 Paris LE MONDE in French 22 Oct 92
p 19

[Unattributed report: "Paris and London Want To Coordinate Their Nuclear Deterrence Policies"]

[Text] Britain and France have started informal exploratory discussions on coordinating their nuclear deterrence policies, British Defense Minister Malcolm Rifkind said on Tuesday 20 October at the Gleneagles meeting (in Scotland) of NATO defense ministers. Questioned on the American reaction to the prospect of such Franco-British coordination, Mr. Rifkind said that he had mentioned this initiative to the NATO Nuclear Planning Group and that it had met with exclusively favorable opinions.

Preliminary Stage

French Prime Minister Pierre Berégovoy recently called for discussions between France (which is not part of the NATO integrated command) and Britain with a view to coordination in the nuclear deterrence sphere.

Mr. Rifkind said that the two countries agreed to discuss "means by which they could identify common points for tackling nuclear questions in order to strengthen defense in Europe as a whole. We are at the stage at which we are having completely informal discussions and are trying to determine the specific subjects which it would be most useful to examine in the initial phase of these discussions." "I am sure," the British minister added, "that discussions proper will take place, but we are currently at a preliminary stage."

Mr. Rifkind explained that he was keeping the United States informed of these discussions and that no major developments could be expected in the coming months.

GERMANY

International Uranium Smuggling Ring Cracked

LD2910140992 Hamburg DPA in German 1149 GMT
29 Oct 92

[Text] Munich (DPA)—German investigators have once again struck a blow against dealing in radioactive material: Following a nationwide search campaign against an international gang of suspected arms and uranium dealers, three persons, including a pastor, have been taken into custody. The state prosecutor's office in Munich reports today that the group, consisting of at least 18 members, is said to have offered for sale kilos of Uranium-235, as well as 30 former Soviet tanks from Czechoslovakia.

In the course of the extensive police operation on Wednesday, searches were conducted at 33 locations in Bavaria, Baden-Wuerttemberg, Hesse, and North Rhine-Westphalia. Authorities in Austria and Switzerland were also involved in the investigations. A Croatian and a German were detained in Munich, and a Croatian pastor was detained in the lower Bavarian town of Jandelsbrunn. It is reported that no arms or uranium were found, however.

As the state prosecutor's Office has not revealed previously for tactical reasons, four Croats and Yugoslavs were arrested as early as September, after offering large amounts of uranium for sale. They carried with them a "sample" of a few grams of Uranium-235. The uranium is thought to come from nuclear power stations in Eastern Europe or the CIS.

Suspected Traffickers Arrested

AU2910160092 Paris AFP in English 1530 GMT 29 Oct 92

[Excerpts] Munich, Germany, Oct 29 (AFP)—German police have arrested one German and two Croats during house searches aimed at dismantling a uranium-trafficking network, the Munich Public Prosecutor's Office announced Thursday.

The legal authorities suspect the men of belonging to a group at least 18-strong selling uranium-235 by the kilo, as well as 30 military tanks from former Soviet stocks, but Wednesday's search produced no trace of either uranium or weapons.

The German police, assisted by the Austrian and Swiss authorities, entered 33 homes in Bavaria, Baden-Wuerttemberg, Hesse and in North Rhine-Westphalia.

One of the arrested men is a Croat pastor. [passage omitted]

Ten days ago, the discovery of 2.2 kg of slightly enriched contraband uranium, of a type used in nuclear power stations, led German Environment Minister Klaus Toepfer to recommend tighter controls to prevent such material being smuggled into Germany.

He added that eastern Europeans had to be made aware that there was no black market in the West for radioactive products. [passage omitted]

Transaction of 80 Kg Plutonium Attempted

AU0211114892 Hamburg BILD in German 2 Nov 92
pp 1,5

[Report by F. Siering and H. Praedel: "15 Nuclear Bombs in a Hamburg Hotel"]

[Text] The terror is right here in Germany. A man comes from Flensburg to Hamburg and offers 80 kg of plutonium in a hotel. This is enough for 15 nuclear bombs. The value: DM120 million. Iraq's dictator, Saddam Husayn, is the secret customer. The deal is supposed to be concluded in a seaside resort on the Black Sea.

Friday, 2 October: Former frogman Norman Derbyshire (51), owner of a company for underwater blasting in Flensburg, sends a fax to England: "If interested, can acquire plutonium 239 from Eastern Europe." The recipient: ex-Major Robert Turp, formerly military attache of the British Embassy in Paris and former employee of the British intelligence service. Turp is interested.

Monday, 5 October: Derbyshire had arranged a meeting with Turp in the Airport Hotel in Hamburg, planning to bring a sample. Where did he get the plutonium from. Derbyshire told BILD: "From Sweden from a courier. I cannot tell you any more."

Wednesday, 8 October: Derbyshire and Turp meet for breakfast in the Airport Hotel. Derbyshire brings the

sample: a peg wrapped in silver foil and filled with 2.83 grams of plutonium, according to a certificate from a Russian reprocessing plant. Derbyshire wants DM5,200 for it. He gets the money.

The sample is examined in England. Turp calls Derbyshire: "It is the real thing."

Friday, 16 October: The big deal is to be concluded in Bulgaria—80 kg of plutonium for DM120 million. Derbyshire and Turp meet with the plutonium suppliers, a Swede and two Poles, in Varna on the Black Sea. What Derbyshire did not know was that Turp is working on his own account and wants to sell the plutonium to the Iraqi Embassy in Anton Chekhov Street in Sofia. Derbyshire told BILD: "I always thought that we were carrying out this action for a good cause—for England."

Tuesday, 27 October: The plutonium and the money are to be handed over in the Sheraton Hotel. The Bulgarian intelligence service has learned of the matter. The deal falls through before the Bulgarians can make a catch.

Turp flees to England. Derbyshire is back in Flensburg (the public prosecutor is investigating). The Swede, the two Poles, and the 80 kg of plutonium have disappeared.

SWEDEN

Radioactive Substances Reportedly For Sale

LD2810235492 Stockholm Sveriges Radio Network
in Swedish 2100 GMT 28 Oct 92

[Text] The Radiation Protection Institute of Sweden warns that radioactive substances are being offered for sale in

Sweden. The Customs Crime Department is currently investigating a case where a Swedish businessman was offered Cesium-137 for sale by a company in Switzerland. The substances often come from the former Soviet Union.

UNITED KINGDOM

Government Rules Out Nuclear Test Ban

LD2610202992 London PRESS ASSOCIATION in English
1732 GMT 26 Oct 92

[By Len Freeman, PRESS ASSOCIATION parliamentary staff]

[Text] Britain will not join Russia and France in a moratorium on nuclear testing, the government made clear today. Baroness Trumpington said a minimal testing programme would continue as a means of ensuring "the safety and credibility of our nuclear deterrent". Her comments came in a written reply to Lord Jenkins of Putney who had asked whether the U.S. decision to join Russia and France in a moratorium meant the UK could be forced to do the same.

Baroness Trumpington said: "The UK does not intend to declare a moratorium... we believe as does the U.S. Administration, that a minimal testing programme continues to be the best means of ensuring the safety and credibility of our nuclear deterrent. However it is not practicable for the UK to test while the U.S. Government is itself unable to do so."

END OF

FICHE

DATE FILMED

4 DEC. 1992